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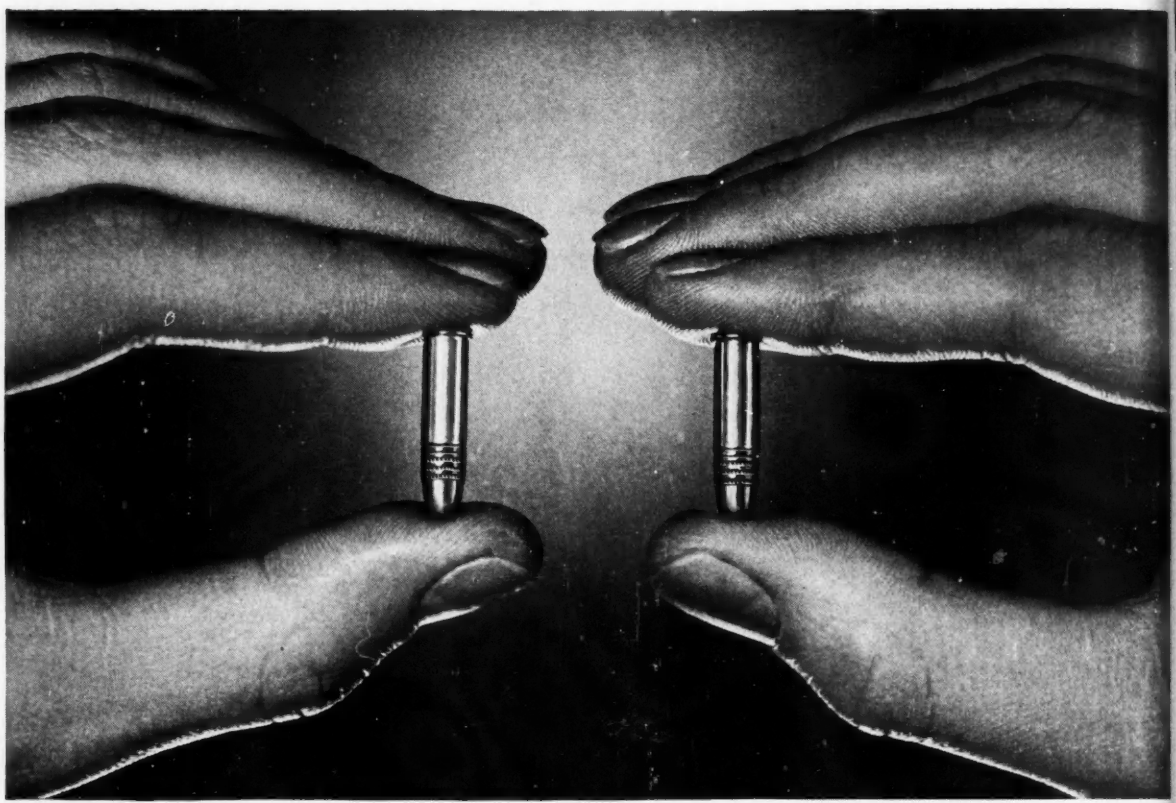

Which cartridge for which gun?

"What's the best 22 cartridge for the target rifle I shoot?" Here's the way Peters ballistics experts have answered this $64 question.

Perfect design . . . perfect uniformity . . . maximum accuracy. That's what they look for in Peters 22 match cartridges. And they get them, through precision manufacture, precision testing. In creating these cartridges, Peters experts study every modern make of American target rifle. Then they develop a cartridge design to meet the requirements. Bullet, case, primer, and powder of Peters match cartridges are made to *micro-close* tolerances. And before each lot is shipped, samples are test-fired as a measure of perfection. As a result, there is no more accurate rim-fire ammunition for *any* make of modern American 22 rifle!

Next time you go shooting, prove to yourself how accurate match cartridges can be. Take along Peters "Police Match". . . Peters "Dewar Match". . . or Peters "Target" cartridges. Shoot them *once* and you'll agree: *Peters really packs the possibles!*

POSSIBLES MADE PROBABLE. Peters technicians test for "sameness" in primer ignition in match cartridge cases . . . one of a score of tests that assure you perfect uniformity of bullets, cases, crimping, and powder.

SIGHT A "BULL"—score a "bull"! Samples from every lot of Peters match cartridges are test-fired from rifles in machine-rest. Tight groups are the Peters standard. They mean more possibles for you on the range!

PETERS

PACKS THE POSSIBLES

PETERS CARTRIDGE DIVISION — *Remington Arms Company, Inc., Bridgeport 2, Conn.—"Dewar Match" and "Target" are Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.—"Police Match" is a trademark of Peters Cartridge Division.*

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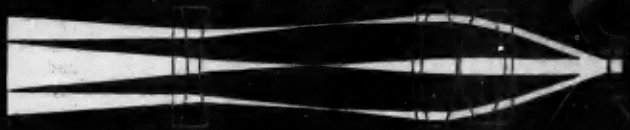
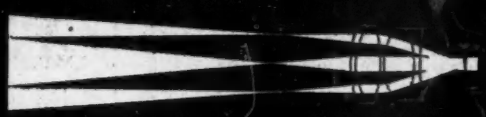


NEW LONG EYEPOINT 20X EYEPIECE



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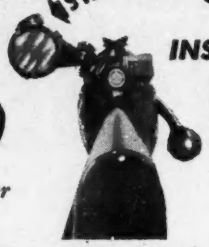

SWINGS TO SIDE INSTANTLY FOR USE OF IRON SIGHTS

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Low . . . where a scope is easiest to use . . . *swing it* to side for instant use of iron sights when needed in bad weather. Precision made throughout . . . swings on hardened steel cones . . . unconditionally guaranteed. Fits all leading rifles.

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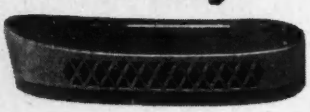
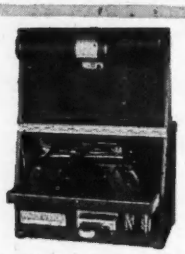


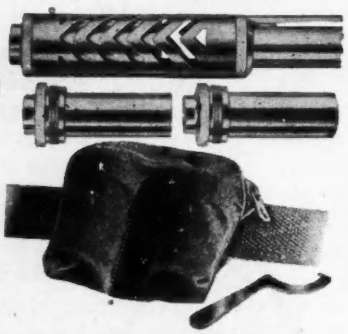
Made of Neoprene . . . not affected by oil, solvent, water or weather. Scientifically designed for comfort and efficiency . . . Two sizes in red or brown. Field, Skeet and Trap Models. $3.25

Best by scientific and field test . . . Unconditionally Guaranteed. Rifle Butt Pads . . . $2.00

HAND-GUN CASE

Holds four hand-guns plus scope and accessories. Beautifully made, flock lined for full protection to guns. Compact and lightweight. $19.75





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Complete with 3 tubes belt carrying case and wrench. Factory Installation: $3.50

CLEAR SIGHT SCOPE CAPS

Neoprene caps with optically flat clear glass, stays on scope ready for use yet gives full protection. Guaranteed not to interfere with scope optics. $2.95 *per pair*

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Improve your hand-gun shooting by installing, in a few minutes, our well-known grip adapter. When ordering, specify gun to be installed on and we will send the correct size. $1.75

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RIFLEMAN WORDS • • • •

Each month this 'lexicon for shooters' is devoted to a few words peculiar to the shooting game which may be puzzling to the newcomer. All words defined are used in a current article.

CHEEKPIECE—A projection on a part of the butt stock to afford a rest for the cheek at the time of firing.

'DRILLING'—Three-barrel combination shotgun and rifle formerly manufactured in Germany. Generally, in *Drillings*, two shotgun barrels were combined with one rifle barrel.

GAS CHECK—A small metal cap (usually copper or copper alloy) which is pressed on the base of a lead bullet to prevent melting of the lead heel from hot powder gases.

HANDLOADING PRESS—A lever-actuated machine into which tools can be fixed for performing the operations required in the handloading of ammunition. Operations include sizing of cases, bullet seating, primer seating, and crimping.

I.M.R. POWDER—Improved military rifle powder. The initials are used by the E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co., Inc., as a prefix to the number designation of their rifle powders.

LIP-FIRE CARTRIDGE—An obsolete type of rim-fire cartridge. The priming composition of it is contained in a small raised projection, or lip, on the rim of the case.

LOGWOOD DYE—A dye substance extracted from the heartwood of a Central American tree. Barrels are sometimes boiled in a solution of Logwood dye to produce a deep black after bluing.

PEPPER-BOX PISTOL—A form of percussion revolver in which the cylinder and barrels are integral. The rotation of the barrels and the action of the lock is produced by the pulling of the trigger.

RIFLING HEAD—That portion of the rifling tool which contains the rifling cutter or scraper.

RINGED BARREL—The barrel of a firearm which has been enlarged or bulged at some point along its length because of the presence of a foreign object in the bore at the time of firing.

RUBBED OIL FINISH—A decorative and protective finish applied to both gunstocks and fine furniture. It consists of many coats of linseed or tung oil, hand rubbed into the surface of the wood.

SOLID FRAME REVOLVER—A revolver in which the frame is not hinged or jointed. The cylinders of solid frame revolvers may be hinged or detachable, or they may be loaded through a gate incorporated in the frame of the revolver.

STOCK BLANK—A block of wood from which a gunstock may be cut. Semi-inletted stock blanks may be obtained in which most of the interior and exterior shaping has been completed during the manufacturing process.

TRUSS—A brace or support consisting of bars, beams, or struts formed into a rigid frame.

WOTKYNS-MORSE BULLET—(WM bullet, 8S bullet)—A .22 caliber jacketed bullet with a long pencil-like soft point. It was designed by the late Capt. G. L. Wotkyns and Mr. Charles H. Morse. '8S' stands for eight spire, referring to the shape of the point.

Yes, sir, it seems like there is always 'gonna be a fight with people who insist on the political control of guns.

Seventy-seven years of experience in fighting the shooter's battles for him has taught us that an informed citizenry is the best means of combating unwise legislation. It's the Democratic way, too.

Members of the National Rifle Association—over a quarter million of them—are the Nation's best informed citizens on all matters pertaining to firearms and their use. THE RIFLEMAN keeps them posted on new developments in the shooting world. N.R.A.'s special bulletins inform members of new proposed "anti-gun" laws and report the action taken on such proposals.

And because N.R.A. members are so well informed, you can bet that their views on firearms legislation are respected by lawmakers and politicians alike.

Certainly you know at least one good American who ought to be in this fight with us. Sign him up . . . today.

APPLICATION FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

National Rifle Association of America
1600 Rhode Island Avenue,
Washington 6, D. C.

GENTLEMEN:

I wish to enjoy the benefits of active membership in the Association, including a subscription to THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN for the term indicated below.

I certify that I am a citizen of the United States; that I am not a member of any organization or group which has as any part of its program the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States or any of its political subdivisions by force or violence; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence, and that if admitted to membership I will faithfully endeavor to fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.

I inclose remittance of ☐ $7.00 for 2 years ☐ $4.00 for 1 year ☐ New ☐ Renewal.

Signature..... Age.....

Address.....

City..... State.....

ENDORSEMENT FOR NEW MEMBERS

Secretary, N.R.A.:

I certify that I am personally acquainted with.....
(Please print)
who has signed this application for active membership in the National Rifle Association of America. He (she) is a person of good repute in the community and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements made on the application are true. Without mental reservation I indorse this applicant as a suitable person to be enrolled in the Association.

Endorser .....

Occupation .....

Address.....

☐ N.R.A. Member
☐ Public Official, including Officers of U. S. Armed Forces.

... with two adjustable straps for that real snug fit!

Handsome new Aviators' Boots — styled like those the Army fliers wore . . . made for perfect comfort even in sub-zero weather! Wonderful for sports, hunting, ice fishing, outdoor work, riding, flying, school and stadium wear, "heavy" weather. Never before such a fine all-purpose boot at such a low price!

THE IDEAL ALL-ROUND BOOT

Just right for the outdoor man or boy! (Women love their luxurious warmth and comfort, too.) Wear them with or without shoes, in every kind of winter weather!

- **WARM — completely sheep-lined (like a mitten).**
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ORDER BY MAIL TODAY! Send check or money order (add 50c per pair for postage and handling), or order C. O. D. Mention your shoe size. Immediate delivery. *Satisfaction guaranteed*, of course.

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813 No. Kansas Ave., Topeka, Kansas
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Please send me _____ pairs Aviators' Boots. My shoe size is_____.

*Name*_____

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ORDER YOUR BOOTS TODAY!

Ricochets . . .

VALUE RECEIVED

Cass City, Mich.

Editor:

In the November RIFLEMAN (Incidentally), I noticed Mr. M. L. H. asked what he got for his money. I don't ever get to the shooting matches because if there was a booby prize I couldn't get high enough to get it. My eyes aren't as sharp as they used to was.

But I'll say what I get for *my* money. I have a good rifle bought thru the Association, a reloading set I secured in wartime from the same source, ammunition to load with, and the friendship of some very good fellows who belong to the NRA.

Last but not least I get every month a bang-up magazine which I like so well that I signed up for a life membership.

You mentioned in your answer to Mr. M. L. H. about the right to own a gun. What European country allows the rank and file to own one? Only the highbrows can.

BURTON A. ELLIOTT

SWEDISH PISTOL

Oppegaard, Norway

Editor:

In your mention on the Swedish-made Lathi pistol (October, page 56), there is an error which I may call to your attention: That 'H' on the grip stands *not* for our King Haakon. It is merely the trade mark for Hustqvarna Weapon Factory.

Of course, no private factory is permitted to use the King's initials and especially no foreign.

LARS BO

JUNIOR SHOOTERS

York, Pa.

Editor:

I just read with interest an article on the lack of junior shooter interest in smallbore shooting. This article was contained in the report of the First Convention (December, page 31).

I am wondering whether one of the reasons might be the same reason I have lost interest. Namely, finances. It seems to me that too many clubs are trying to pay for newly developed ranges in a year or two and cater to the hot-shots, leaving it to the mediocre shooter to pay for the hot-shot's shooting.

When I first started shooting, an average day's shooting program consisted of four 40-shot matches and two or three aggregates. Each match entry fee was 75 cents. This made a day's shooting around $6.50 for the program. There was no money paid out but rather gold, silver, and bronze medals for first, second and third place in each class, in each match. (These were matches for friendly competition, not blood).

They now cut the matches in half, making 20-shot matches. This allows them to run eight matches in a day's program instead of four, and because of the larger number of matches they are able to get more aggregate combinations and place five or six on the program instead of two or three. At the same time, the fees are raised from 75 cents to $1.00, with the result that instead of $6.50 for the day, you are lucky if it does not cost you $15.00 or more, in addition to the high cost of ammunition and transportation. I am wondering whether this is not a large contributing factor in lack of interest.

You might say, a junior or mediocre shooter should not play the aggregates. Well I do not, but without these your day's shooting for entry fees only will be $8.00 to $10.00 as against $3.50 to $5.00 with the old set-up. It all boils down to one thing. The fellow who shoots because he likes to shoot and knows he cannot win anything, pays for the hot-shot's day of pleasure.

NORMAN E. DIETZ

RAY WHITAKER

Austin, Texas

Editor:

Our friend Ray Whitaker is gone (RIFLEMAN, December, page 67). His place will be hard to fill. I do not know how much your directors miss him, but as one of his many friends in the field, shooting matches will never be the same now. No one realizes better how much quiet work, how many inflexible decisions, and still how smoothly efficient was Ray. The more a person saw of the man, the more his personality grew upon you.

I am sure that in the hearts of all of us who knew him there are words we cannot find to express how we feel about him—words that would pay a real tribute to the sportsmanship, the courage, and the fine challenge of a man's man who lived by and enforced the rules unflinchingly — carried through right when and where he saw it, regardless of the cost.

Ray Whitaker will be hard to replace. I hope that the directors of the NRA will think twice before they choose the man to replace the straight shooter that was Ray Whitaker.

EARLTON SMITH

● *The tragic deaths of Betty and Ray Whitaker* (RIFLEMAN, *December, page 61*) *leaves a major gap in the ranks of NRA staffmen. His quiet efficiency and his knowledge of the states in which he worked will be hard to find in another.*—Ed.

TOMORROW'S MATCHES

East Burke, Vermont

Editor:

I received the November RIFLEMAN with it's conclusion of C. B. Lister's "Tomorrow's Match Program," which I had been impatiently awaiting. I wasn't 'let down.'

The pattern that he outlined follows very closely the one that has been taking shape in my mind, and naturally I consider it good. It seems the only logical pattern to follow.

My pattern does have one item that might be worth adding to his. It is some system of point scoring for club credits for open and invitational competitions up to, and including, State Championships. This is for individual events on the programs and would allow a win or place to score a certain number of points to the credit of the club the shooter represents. This would be similar to the system used in athletic meets which include several types of competition, such as

di meets, track meets, etc. It seems to me that this would help build club spirit and thus build a firmer foundation for that pyramid of yours. A point system of this sort could be uniform for every type of competition for it would depend entirely on 'win or place' instead of on scores.

That part of Mr. Lister's pattern which would bring more of the hunter and plinker shooters into the organized game will have to depend on the promoters and organizers within organized shooting at present, and those to be added as we go along.

The present competitive shooter, so called, doesn't seem to be keen on position matches, surprise fire, and novelty events in tournament programs. It's the gang that play the gallery game on the home-club range, and inter-club matches, and the untapped hunter and plinker gang that would like that variety. And it is my firm conviction that it will take lighted outdoor ranges to get them. There is just too much competition from other activities during daylight hours of the good weather, outdoor season.

Neither classification nor handicapping will ever be entirely satisfactory but from my contacts I believe classification is rather generally considered the better of the two.

P. H. TEACHOUT
Editor, *Shooter's News*

CZECH AMMO

Newark, Ohio

Editor:

Mr. Harry Wandrus' article on Czech ammo is a nice one. I see some of the ammo appearing around here and it is interesting to hear what makes it tick. I believe he's a degree off the beam on one of the arsenals listed, though.

Westfalische Metalindustrie is in North Germany, or at least it was in 1945. Perhaps the British have moved it since, but it was in their zone the last I heard. I was in Lippstadt for 10 days in April 1945 and spent an hour or so at the plant. It was evidently a wartime job as the main building was older.

JOHN P. CONLON

HERE'S APPLEBY!

Pole Cat Crick, Oklahoma

Dear Sire:

The Blacksmith he come up the other nite and wondered if I would rite to you for him again as he figgered they was some things you should ought to no aboute. he sed he was down to the general Store and P.O. the other day to get a littel meat an pertaters when the male come in and he seen your magazine.

he sed you had some feller rite in your book that he called .32 RimFire Rodgers. he sed this feller had now got down to more sizeable stuff like squirrel and turkey fer his rim fire and he liked it a lot better. he sed he figyered it was a purtey good yarn.

he sed he had bin thinken about it a heap and they just wasnt hardley nuthen that he wouldnt give to know what kilt that turkey and he wondered if you fellers had figgered it out

as ever your friend
BILL APPLEBY

Choose the Best Tools for Reloading

A SHOOTER'S RELOADING BENCH

Ideal Bench and Hand Tools Produce Accurate Reloads

When you are after the best results in hand loaded ammunition, all of your requirements are found in the complete line of Ideal Reloading Tools and accessories. Ideal Tools are widely used in this country and throughout the world. They serve the shooters best because they are accurately made, easy to operate and produce satisfactory, close shooting reloads.

Ideal Booklet Free

IDEAL HAND BOOK 50c Postpaid

THE LYMAN GUN SIGHT CORP.
MIDDLEFIELD, CONN.

SHELDON

Gunsmiths find what they want in SHELDON S-56 series Precision Lathes. and in this series they like the TRB S-56 Lathes, best for extreme accuracy; ("Zero Precision" Taper Roller Bearings) extra capacity (1⅜" hole thru spindle); 56" bed that's just right for all but the very long antiques.

They like the 8-speed underneath drive, full quick-change gears, double-walled worm feed apron with power cross feed and modern welded bench with heavy plate top and 3 drawers . . . and they like its price. It's by far the most lathe for the money ever built.

Write for Bulletins

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4243 N. Knox Ave. Chicago 41, Ill.

TRB S-56 LATHE

11¼" Swing; 1⅝" hole thru spindle; 1" collet capacity; Zero Precision Taper Roller Bearings.

So you want a

GOOD TARGET RIFLE

—but you want one at a down-to-earth price

?

Model #44US

$27.90

$28.65 west of Rockies (*Rifle only*)

Then this fine Mossberg 7-shot, bolt action, clip repeater is for you! It's Model #44US, but we call it the "G.I." because it's the rifle Uncle Sam chose as standard for training thousands and thousands of army and navy men. Has 13/16" heavy type, 26" barrel. Genuine walnut stock. Mossberg #S130 peep sight and #S106 hooded ramp front sight. It will shoot with the best of them!

Scope is Mossberg 4x power Model #5M4 with patented internal adjustment feature; makes a beautiful combination with this sturdy, straight-shooting target model. Mossberg scopes fit practically all makes of .22 caliber rifles—only $9.95 complete with mount.

SEE THEM AT YOUR DEALER'S

Send for FREE *descriptive folder*

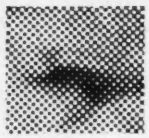
(No sales at factory)

O. F. Mossberg & SONS, INC.

92501 St. John St., New Haven 5, Conn.

Incidentally . . .

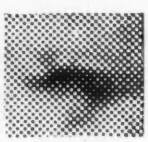
One of the hair-tearing angles of putting a mazagine together is the matter of illustrations . . . where to get them, and what to do with them when they show up late (which they almost invariably do). Fellow editors who are harried by engraver's deadlines or failure thereof can take solace, however, in the knowledge that it has ever been thus. George Washington (whose fame certainly was not built upon his accomplishments as an editor) had the same troubles. An inquisitive friend of ours . . . a gentleman with a penchant for burrowing through musty old documents . . . proved it to us the other day. Wrote Washington to Thomas Jefferson at eleven in the morning, on March 4, 1792:



85 Screen

"The Engravers say eight weeks is the shortest time in which the plan can be engraved; probably they may keep it eight months. Are there any good Engravers in Boston? If so, would it not be well to obtain a copy . . . and send it there, or even to London?"

Our friend didn't know if the General got his engraving on time, and whether from London, Boston, or the local shop. Since his problem dealt with the plan for the Capitol of the United States, however, we can safely assume that it did arrive. At least something showed up. The building is there.



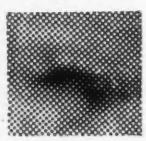
100 Screen

☆ ☆ ☆

Fortunately, times have changed. Deadlines are figured in days, sometimes hours. Within the thirty-day period in which a RIFLEMAN issue is made up, a lot of feverish activity goes on. Pictures must be snatched from here, there, and everywhere. In this issue, for instance, are photographs from five or six New York and foreign picture agencies (pages 9-12), others from our own studio (pages 13-16, 29-32), pictures made by our photographers on assignment in another city (pages 20-24), drawings and illustrations from contributing artists (pages 17-19, 30-31), photographs supplied by the author (pages 39-41), photographs from the RIFLEMAN picture morgue (pages 48-49), drawings supplied by the publisher of a new shooting book (pages 26-28) and illustrations from a half-dozen other sources. Some of these can be used just as they are; others must be retouched to show details more clearly; still others must be rejected and done all over again because of some minor error or shortcoming which slipped past our photographer's watchful eye. To translate them into metal engravings for use in the RIFLEMAN they must be edited, cropped to correct proportions, marked for size, retouched, routed from editor to engraver to printer . . . and all of this in time to keep our nerve-wracked printer from blowing a gasket because his presswork is delayed.

☆ ☆ ☆

Just to make life more interesting, editors are forever experimenting. They're never satisfied to let well enough alone. In this issue, for instance, you'll find (on page 57) an engraving of finer screen than we ordinarily use, and one of coarser screen. (Screen, incidentally, is the name for the dots in which the engraver breaks a photograph so that it can be printed. The three rectangles on this page are to-scale enlargements of a part of the picture at the top of page 11 as it appears in 85-, 100-, and 120-dot to the inch engravings. Look at them from across the room and you'll make out the girl's eye. Chances are, our old standby 100-screen illustrations are still the best, and we'll simply verify our first selection as correct for the paper we must use. But there's always the chance of a miracle. One of the others might look better . . . we'll know by the time you read this.



120 Screen

And then, after all of the fuss about engravings . . . quality, deadlines, screen, and whatnot . . . we throw them away unused. With 325,000 copies to print, sets of plates must be made up by molding from the type and engravings. If we printed from those painstakingly-made originals they would break down before we were halfway through the press run. So . . . when the plates are made, and the printing completed, we part off to the junk man a hundred or so engravings that have never once felt the smack of an ink roller. Life's like that.—J. S.

COVER

Master woodcarver Frank Ferg of Merchantville, New Jersey ornamented the rifle illustrated on page 29, this issue, as an example of what can be accomplished with a run-of-the-mill piece of wood. On the cover, he is shown as he carved pistol-grip panels on a similar stock after it had been roughed out by NRA's Al Barr. Though not himself a rifleman, Ferg has carved many stocks for his friends. The photograph was taken by George Crossette of Washington, D. C. with a Speed Graphic and 4 by 5 indoor Kodachrome. Exposure was 100th second at f/11, with two No. 22 flashbulbs in reflectors.

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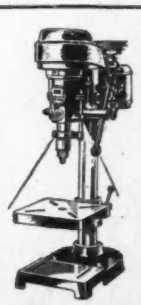

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THE GREATER DANGER

"We meet in this case, as in many, the appeal to *necessity*. It is said that if such arrests and searches cannot be made, law enforcement will be more *difficult* and uncertain. But the forefathers, after consulting the lessons of history, *designed our Constitution to place obstacles in the way of a too permeating police surveillance, which they seemed to think was a greater danger to a free people than the escape of some criminals from punishment.*"

This is the language of the Supreme Court of the United States in a decision handed down on January 5, 1948 in the case of U. S. vs. Di Re (No. 61, October Term 1947). The case had to do with rationing coupons, not firearms. The language is important to sportsmen, however, because the only argument advanced by proponents of universal firearms registration is that failure to provide such 'permeating police surveillance' makes law enforcement 'more difficult and uncertain.' No honest advocate of general firearms registration has ever said that criminals might be expected to obey such laws. The appeal is always one of convenience to the policeman, regardless of inconvenience or danger to the citizen who employs the policeman.

Do we go too far afield in discussing police registration of privately owned weapons as a part of the picture of a man's eternal struggle to be free? An unprejudiced witness would certainly be the British Latin professor and historian, T. R. Glover. Weapons had only an objective interest to his scholarly mind. In *The Ancient World* (Cambridge University Press 1935, republished in Pelican Books 1944), Professor Glover says "as metallurgy advanced and weapons grew cheaper *democracy began with the heavy armed commons* very much as, after the Middle Ages, gunpowder ended chivalry (the power of armored knights—Ed.) and brought a new age."

Every conqueror from Alexander to Eisenhower has said first to the conquered, "Give me your personal weapons as well as your military arms." Dictators from the Caesars to the Politburo have said to their subjects, "Only those of you may be armed who have been approved by our police." Through all ages the conquered, not the conqueror; the serf, not the free man; the groveling subject of the dictator, not the proud citizen of a democracy, has been deprived of weapons save at the whim of his master's police. This is the lesson of history which caused our forefathers 'to place obstacles in the way of a too permeating police surveillance'.

Citizens too busy, too proud, too lazy to take any interest in politics, are solely responsible for the sloppy thinking, the often cowardly compromise which has steadily delegated more and more legislative and even judicial powers to the law enforcement agencies controlled by the political executive. When will we discover that when the people's representatives delegate their law-making powers to the law-enforcing agencies democracy is dead in fact, no matter how loudly it may be proclaimed in *theory* from the political rostrum?

Let our state and national legislatures, convening new sessions this month, give earnest thought to 'the lessons of history' on which the American system of government was predicated. Let us have a return to the fundamental principle of a jealously guarded separation of the legislative, judicial, and executive functions. Let us have a clear understanding of the principle stated by the Supreme Court (Johnson vs. U. S. No. 329, October Term 1947) that it is the essence of the American system that our police are *under* the law . . . when police *are* the law a police-state prevails.

Have you, brother, been too busy, or too proud, or too lazy to 'take any interest in politics'? If so, now is a good time to *get* interested! A too permeating police surveillance is a greater danger to a free people than the escape of an occasional criminal—and it is a much more prevalent condition right now than you probably have cause to know about!

C. B. Lister

SWITZERLAND

NATION OF RIFLEMEN . . . PART ONE

SHOOTING, SWISS STYLE, CARRIES AN IMPRESSIVE MORAL FOR ANY NATION WHICH MAY HAVE TO DEFEND ITSELF

BY HAL M. McFARLAND

"YOU MUST shoot well," the Swiss citizen is sternly directed, "to develop your character, to defend your country and to save your skin."

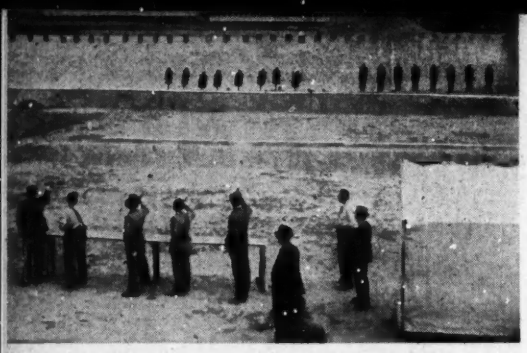
By decree of its federal government Switzerland is a nation of riflemen. The present law, dating from 1907, directs that every male Swiss citizen who is physically fit shall perform each year certain *tir obligatoire* or required shooting as a part of his compulsory militia training. Despite the fact that Switzerland is every inch a democracy, such required shooting is not to be taken lightly. Moreover, every Swiss officer and enlisted man keeps his rifle or pistol *at home* when not on duty. These are two of the reasons why Switzerland could mobilize her forces within forty-eight hours.

A Swiss must "pass" his *tir obligatoire* each year or he is ordered into a special three-day refresher course *without pay*, where he serves in the militia under military jurisdiction. For those who are adjudged physically unfit, and hence not required to shoot or otherwise take part in the militia training, there is a special tax.

But marksmanship for the Swiss is not altogether as dull as dishwater. There are many social activities included in the various shooting programs. One, rather startling for an American accustomed to strict rules against drinking while on the range, is the nearby "short snort" cafe usually found at Swiss ranges.

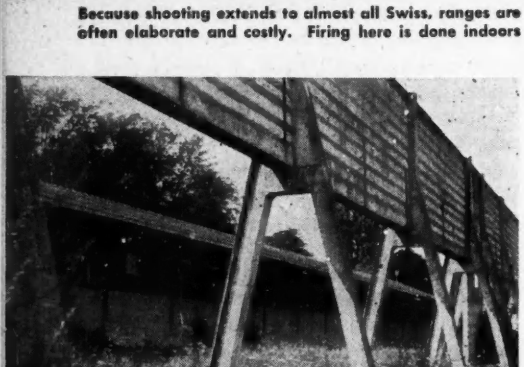
A military intelligence expert, who must remain unidentified, says of the Swiss shooting program: "In general the results produced with the program's miniscule budget and handful of directing personnel appears short only of the miraculous." That his opinion is based on fact may be seen from the following figures. Each year Switzerland trains about a half-million men to be good rifle and pistol shots on a shoestring budget of one-and-a-half to two million dollars per year. That averages about $4 per man per year!

These Swiss youngsters, enrolled in voluntary youth-corps training, are already good shots

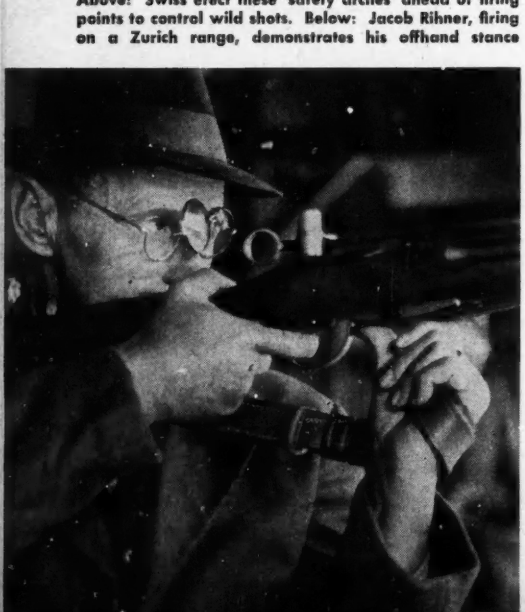


A pistol range near Bern. Shelter at left is for use in Olympic-type matches. Note bent right arms of shooters

Because shooting extends to almost all Swiss, ranges are often elaborate and costly. Firing here is done indoors



Above: Swiss erect these 'safety arches' ahead of firing points to control wild shots. Below: Jacob Rihner, firing on a Zurich range, demonstrates his offhand stance



One potent reason for the economy of marksmanship training in this highly-organized little country is that there are only *four* paid employees in the entire shooting scheme: The four are a full-time colonel and three assistants in the Military Firing Program office. All subordinate personnel are unpaid volunteers.

Two aims form the basis of Switzerland's *tir obligatoire*. The first is to keep active the Swiss militia by maintaining its marksmanship at a sufficiently high level. The second is to cut active military service to a minimum through marksmanship training among the country's civil populace.

Organization of the Swiss shooting program is set up as follows:

Chief of the Military Department
Chief of Military Instruction
Chief of Extra-Military Firing Program
Federal Firing Officers
Cantonal Firing Commissions
District Firing Commissions
Pre-Military Marksmen
Local Shooting Societies
Obligatory Marksmen
Voluntary Marksmen

The heart of the Swiss marksmanship plan is the local shooting society. The great bulk of the work of carrying out the *tir obligatoire* each year is done by the local shooting societies which are approximately the same as our own local clubs.

On a national basis about eighty percent of the local Swiss clubs belong to the *Societe Suisse des Carabiniers* or Swiss Society of Riflemen. The only other large national organization is the Socialist's (not Communist, but may have Communist members) *Federation Ouvriere Suisse de Tir* or Swiss Workers' Firing Federation. Other associations include special ones for pistol and revolver, *petite calibre* (.22 caliber), match shooters, veteran riflemen, and crossbow hobbyists.

Federal supervision and planning of the shooting program is done by the Military Firing Program office. Directly under this office are the federal firing officers who see that the federal plan is carried out. These are usually majors in the militia whose hobby is shooting. They do many hours of unpaid work. At the cantonal level, firing commissions oversee the required shooting within their canton.

Twenty shots for record each year with the rifle are required of every Swiss armed with the shoulder weapon, as well as of *all* officers. And pass they must or it will cost them three days without pay in the special military school where they must learn to sharpen their shooting eye. A small number of service troops carry the pistol instead of the rifle.

If a rifleman fails to make the grade in the first trial, in which he fires ammunition given him by the government, he is allowed a second trial, but he must pay for the cartridges. Four sighting shots are permitted with each twenty-shot course of required shooting. Passing, however, is not difficult by American standards. With a possible of 80, he need score only 35 points including 15 *touchés*. A *touché* is any shot which falls inside the one-ring or higher. On the Swiss "E" target any hit on the paper is a touché.

Nearly every Swiss range (called *tir de stand*, or shooting stand) is covered. Actually this means that shooters fire from a long, low building having shutters on one side which may be swung up. There are several reasons for a covered shooting stand. It allows shooting in bad weather; it provides greater uniformity of conditions, and creates a permanent structure. An interesting point is that standard Swiss ranges are almost invariably 300 meters.

The 300-meter distance is used entirely by the Swiss army, on the theory that this is a 'normal' range for infantry fire on the battlefield, and in most cases civilian usage has followed the military lead.

The obligatory rifle course each year calls for 5 rounds slow fire, prone at bullseye "A" target; 5 rounds slow fire, prone, prone silhouette, "B" target; 5 rounds rapid, one minute, prone, "B" target; and 5 rounds timed fire, 6 seconds per shot at bobbing target "E", standing silhouette, prone with support.

The "A" target is similar to our 300-yard bullseye target, having the center and highest ring of 20 centimeters (approximately 7.8 inches) score 5 points. Its one-ring is approximately 59 inches in diameter. On the "B" target, the highest ring (20 centimeters) is rated four, while the one-ring is approximately 39 inches across. The "E" target, on which any hit or *touché* counts three, corresponds to our standing silhouette, being approximately 18 inches wide and 65 inches high. A rest may be used with all but the "A" target.

Although every Swiss rifleman must "pass" his required annual shooting, the road to good markmanship is made easier than taking the lazy highway to failure. In addition to conditions already noted, it should be observed that only 20 points (!) and ten *touchés* are required of certain non-infantrymen, mechanics and the like. Failure to pass subjects the erring rifleman to military discipline.

If the cause of his failure is simply the way of a Dull Dilbert with a rifle, then he takes the special three-day, no pay, shooting course. But if the cause be negligence, falsification in any manner, or buttheaded refusal to shoot, the military court may impose a heavy penalty if it sees fit. Happily, this is seldom necessary since most of the men of Switzerland seem to like to shoot.

Just how this came about is, I think, a debatable point. I honestly doubt that the number of gun-bugs among the Swiss runs any higher, percentage-wise, than it does among the Americans. But note these facts: First, the Swiss citizen knows he *must* shoot or pay one of various penalties. Second, his shooting is made not too difficult; social activity and mild drinking are included, and a man has, in addition, his "club." Perhaps even the author of New York's Sullivan anti-gun law might be able to stomach shooting with all that!

As a sample of interest in shooting it is worthwhile to remark that only one percent of those doing required shooting in the canton of Geneva indulge in other kinds of shooting, while some of the German-speaking cantons register 80 percent in non-required firing.

For those who really like to shoot, the government provides voluntary exercises which cost the shooter about half the full price of the cartridge. Riflemen pay 12 centimes (about three cents) per cartridge and pistol or revolver gunners pay 10 centimes per round. Listed below are the optional courses for the rifle (similar exercises may, or may not, be worked out for the pistol as circumstances indicate):

Optional rifle course A, called field firing: prone or kneeling at 300 meters, using prone silhouette target "B"—6 rounds slow fire; 6 rounds rapid fire, 2 series of 3 rounds each, one minute per 3 rounds: 6 rounds rapid fire, 2 series of 3 rounds, 30 second per 3 rounds.

Optional rifle course B, standing position, firing at bobbing targets, standing silhouette "E" from 50 to 150 meters; or any position with range increased to 150 to 300 meters. Rifle not at shoulder until command "fire"—6 rounds, single shot, target visible for six seconds; two series of two rounds each, target visible 10 seconds for 2 rounds.

Careful records of both the required shooting and the voluntary, if the latter is tried, are kept on a standard range record or *feuille de stand*. Such work, as well as the bulk of the administrative labor, falls on the local shooting societies. Their central directing committees supervise the firing, keep all records desired by the military, and their own additional records if they wish. Firing begins in the spring and ends about September 1. Thus the marksman can work out a date best suited to himself.

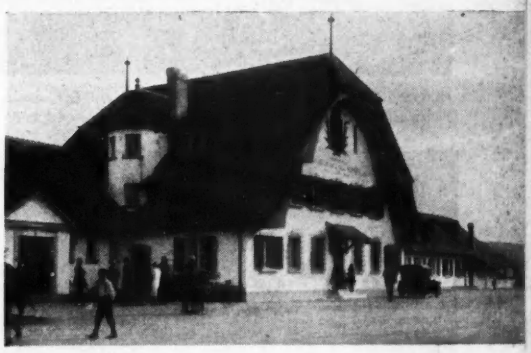
Each individual has a "firing notebook" which he is obliged to keep up to date. In this the local committee enters his target scores. After the required firing is finished, individual sheets plus a consolidated record are forwarded to the military department through central shooting commissions and regional Federal Firing Officers.

If a Swiss is physically handicapped and unable to participate in the required militia program he still must pay a special tax for the privilege of not doing so. In law, at least, this is limited to those directed by a medical doctor into the landsturm (third line reserve, aged 41 to 48 inclusive) or the auxiliary services.

The tax for not taking part in the militia program is in addition to any other taxes, and is calculated in this manner: 1.5 percent of the annual in-

Swiss seldom use rifle sling. This girl's rifle has elaborate open sight adjustable for windage and elevation

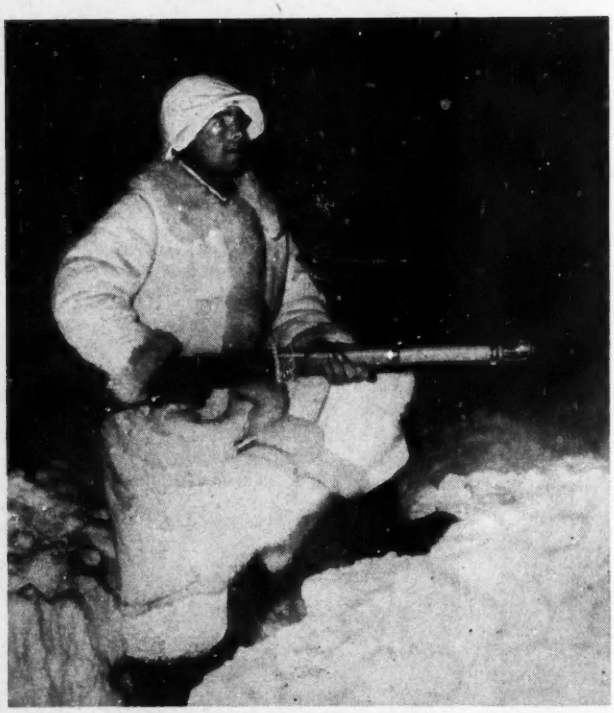
Firing is done outdoors in favorable weather. On this range near Bern, shooters are using fiber shooting mats



Above: An elaborate clubhouse near Bern. Below: Swiss are famed for their fine rifles. This workman is assembling rear sights in factory of Rudolph Haemmerli

Switzerland's militia program has paid off in small, highly-trained army at low cost. In this 'three-man team', riflemen's job is to protect machine gun

Above: A unit of mountain infantry. Below: For service high in the Alps, Swiss riflemen are garbed in these heavy fur-lined camouflage snow suits



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come, plus 1.5 percent of each 1000 francs (about $250) valuation of 'fortune' or capital goods. Naturally the average man already hard hit by low income and high prices can rarely afford the privilege of not shooting. One military official, observing that the percentage varied from canton to canton, estimated that less than 15 percent of Switzerland's available manpower did not shoot.

Since 1901 Switzerland has had a comprehensive insurance which covers those engaging in required shooting or active service in the militia. The shooter pays for the insurance only indirectly, since all costs are borne by the government. In the case of an accident the amount of payment, or even non-payment, is decided by a special court which takes into account all circumstances of the accident—cause, how it happened, the person's social standing, and so forth. In other words there is no fixed schedule of payments such as is normally guaranteed in most American civilian insurance or in the war-time GI government insurance.

Payments can be made for all hospital and medical bills. Wages of the shooter, while sick or recovering, can be paid up to 70 percent of his income. In case he is killed, the rules are even more complex, with lump sum settlement or widow's pensions amounting to 40 percent of the deceased's previous income if there are no children, and up to 65 percent for a widow with children.

Safety regulations governing the ranges and other shooting are good and well enforced. Accidents are rare but they do happen—most years will see one or more men killed, hence the insurance. At the entrance to each covered firing point a trained man checks each rifle to see that the action *(culasse)* is open, the bore is clear, and the gun in operating condition.

My own impression is that the individual Swiss is not as safety conscious, nor as well trained in safe handling of fire-arms as an American shooter; but the Swiss record is good, nonetheless, considering the "in service" and "out-of-service" training.

One excellent safety feature for ranges used a great deal with high-powered rifles is the series of 'arches' to prevent stray shots from going over the backstop. These consist of two or more concrete structures designed to catch any wild shot except one going almost vertical, or at right angles to the line of fire.

The success of the Swiss shooting program has not been achieved without spending money. The government employs a subsidy system to encourage shooting and training with the military rifle (or pistol). This subsidy takes three main forms: a federal subsidy to local societies or clubs with rates as noted below; a cantonal subsidy of approximately one franc per member per year (one Swiss franc equals approximately $ .24); and any money derived from the sale of fired cases. This last item is not great but will nonetheless average ten percent of a club's income.

Other forms of aid, either money or otherwise, include assistance in planning ranges, money for the construction of ranges, training aids of various kinds, and perhaps temporary personnel.

Federal subsidy rates, paid each year to local clubs, are:

Required rifle firing, $.40 per member for 70 percent participation;

.34 per member for 20 to 69 per cent participation;

.28 per member up to 19 percent participation;

Optional rifle firing .28 per firing member;

Pistol firing per member completing prescribed program; .28 per member completing optional program.

To realize the importance the *(Continued on page 38)*

The tools and supplies shown here (plus an inexpensive cast-iron pot for melting lead) are all that are needed to load safe, accurate ammunition

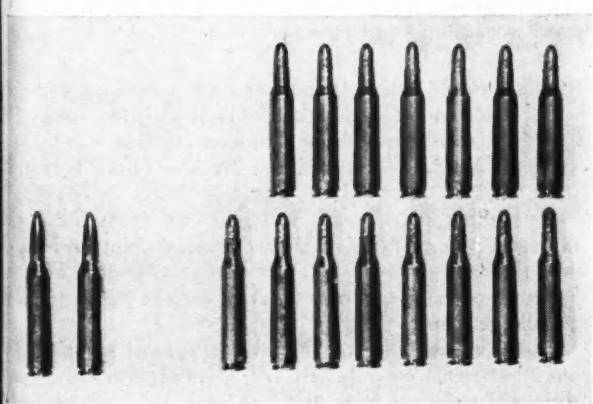
WHY NOT LOAD YOUR OWN?

FOR MANY A SHOOTER, HANDLOADING IS THE ONLY ANSWER TO RISING AMMUNITION COSTS. HERE, IN A RIFLEMAN 'HOW-TO-DO-IT', ARE ALL OF THE BASIC FACTS

Photographs for THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN by R. L. Reish and Claude Petrone

AS the price of store-bought ammunition has soared, the 'one-rifle' guncrank is finding it more and more difficult to make ends meet in his shooting budget. There seems only one answer—reloading, to cut those costs! To help NRA members meet that situation, here is the first of a series which will show, in pictures and text, the hows and whys of making your own home-brew ammunition.

The picture story which follows uses the simplest methods and equipment by way of illustration. The tools themselves were selected because their construction happened to lend itself to picture taking. There are many other tools on the market which will do the same job with equal ease; and more expensive tools which will do the same job faster and more conveniently. The use of any particular tool in a photograph has no bearing on its relative desirability compared to others on the market. In the same way, the .257 Roberts cartridge was selected for the series as a typical modern cartridge.

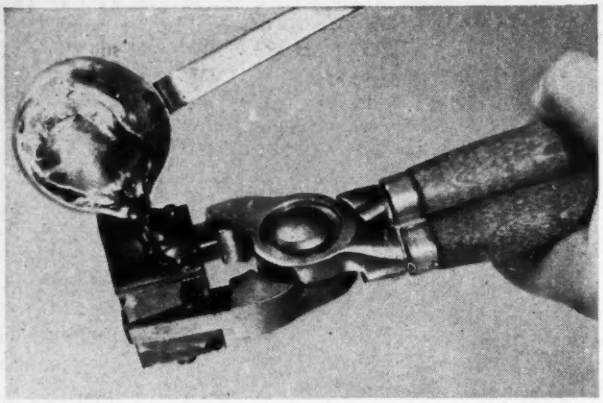


The fifteen lead-bullet handloads on the right cost the same (excluding equipment and empty cases) as the two factory loads shown beside them. Even if jacketed bullets are purchased, the ratio is still 2½ to one

There are minor drawbacks to reloading. It takes time. It takes a certain amount of equipment, which may be inexpensive or costly. It means fooling with powder, primers, gas checks, messy lubricant, and whatnot. It demands a measure of care and patience. But weighed against these apparent drawbacks are the matters of cost (7½ to one, in the case of inexpensive lead-bullet loads); increased use and enjoyment of one's rifle; and the chance, so eagerly sought after by most Americans, of finding out what makes something tick. Loading his own ammunition will teach the rifleman more about his arms than any other pursuit save actual shooting, and will increase his enjoyment of the sport in direct proportion to the degree of interest he brings to the job.

If you *are* interested, don't overlook the help you can get from the reloading handbooks (Belding & Mull, Philipsburg, Pa., $.60 and Lyman Gunsight, Middlefield, Conn., $.50). One or both is 'must' equipment for anyone who reloads or plans to try his hand at it.

Whether you try it to save money or to get more shooting for the same outlay, loading your own ammunition is good fun. Bringing home the bacon with a cartridge you loaded all by yourself is a satisfying experience. Try it!



CASTING BULLETS: A good bullet metal for averag purposes consists of 15 parts lead and one part tin.

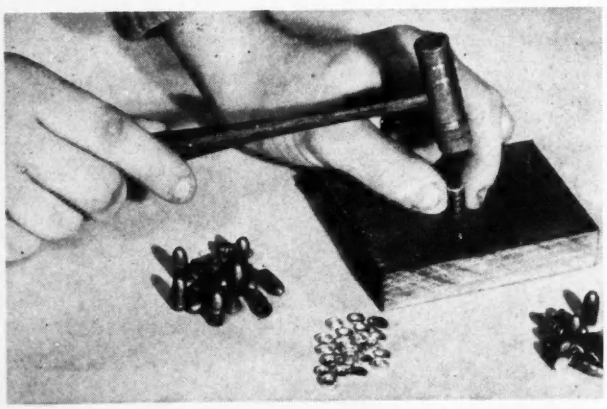
Melt the lead, then add the tin, and stir well. Put a smal quantity of beeswax or sal-ammoniac on top of the melte mixture in order to minimize formation of surface dross. Fol an old piece of blanket or other cloth on which to dump th bullets, to avoid denting them.

Close the mold and pour in the molten metal. After severa seconds, tap the sprue cutter over with a wooden stick so tha it cuts off the metal that was left over after the mold was full Then open the mold. With the bullet facing downward ove the blanket, tap mold with a stick to make the bullet fall out

The mold will not cast bullets properly until it is hot. A dozen or so bullets will have to be cast before they will be per fect, with well-shaped grooves and square, clean bases.

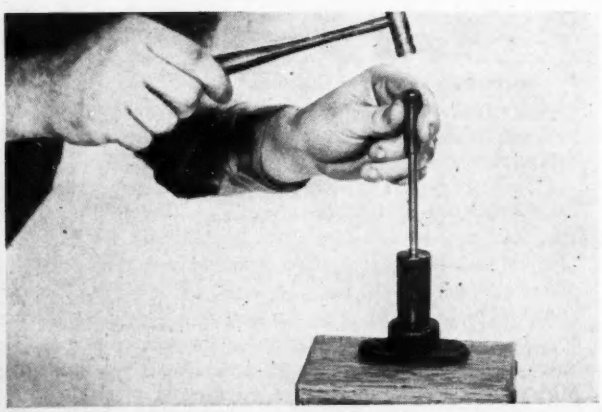
LUBRICATING: Before the bullets are sized the groove must be filled with lubricant, which may be purchased o made at home. Our lubricant consists of equal parts of bee wax and paraffin, thinned to a tough, pliable consistency by th trial and error method with Vaseline or a good grade of cup grease, such as Pennzoil No. 305, which contains graphite.

Stand the bullets in a shallow pan, pour in melted lubrican until it covers the top groove, and then allow the lubrican to harden. Take a cartridge which has been cut off near th head so as to form a tube. When this is passed down over a bullet, it will remove all the surplus lubricant and the bulle will remain in the tube, which can then be passed down ove the next bullet. The tube will soon become full of bullets an they will begin coming out the top. Clean excess lubrican from the bullet bases.



ATTACHING GAS CHECKS: Except for low-velocit loads, the base of the bullet must be protected from the hea of the powder gases by a shallow copper cup, called a 'ga check.' Bullets to be used with gas checks have a step on th base over which the gas check fits. When using this method the gas check is attached after lubricating, as otherwise it i likely to be pushed off in the process.

To attach the gas check, have a wooden block with a smal hole bored in it in which the point of the bullet will fit. Thi is to prevent deformation of the point during the process o attaching the gas check. To attach the gas check the bullet i picked up in the left hand, placed with the point in the hol in the block of wood, and the gas check is placed on the bas of the bullet. It is then tapped in place with a stick or a small wooden or plastic mallet.



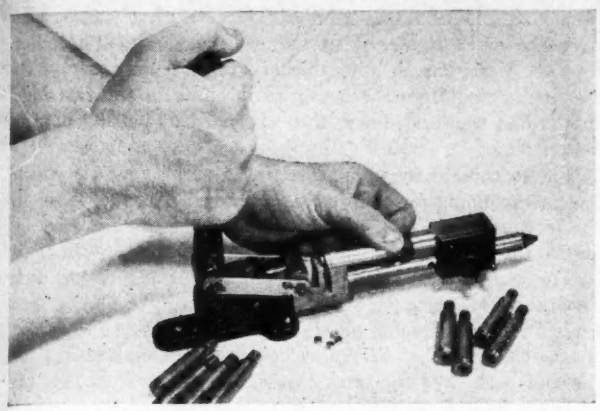
SIZING BULLETS: As individual gun barrels vary in size bullet molds are made to cast the bullet slightly over-size. The bullets are then resized to the dimensions desired.

The resizing die is fastened to a box which has a hole in it top. Inside is a soft, folded cloth.

The bullets are started into the die base down and force through by the plunger, which has a hollow point made to fi over the point of the bullet. Resizing can be done by han but it is generally preferable to drive the plunger down wit a mallet or a stick.

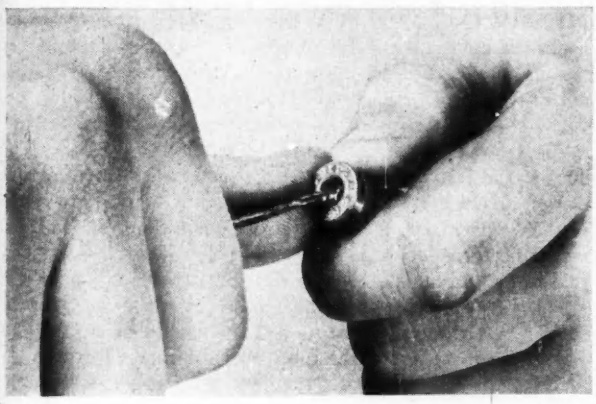
As the bullets fall through they are removed and placed t one side so that other bullets falling on them will not den their surfaces.

Our bullets have now been cast, lubricated, and sized. The gas check is attached, and they are ready for use.



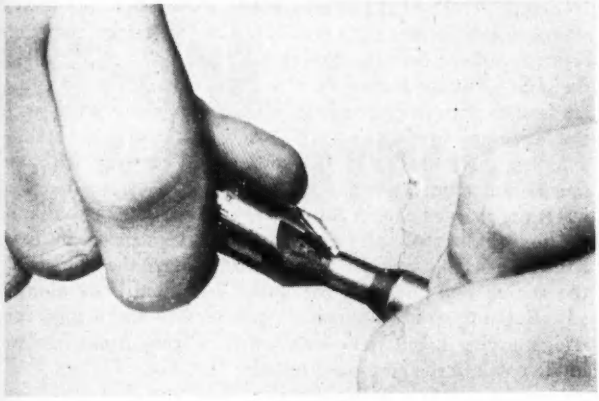
DECAPPING: Your empty cases will have old primers in them, and will be dirty and stained with powder smoke. Clean the cases by shaking out any dirt that may be inside and by wiping off the outside. It is not necessary or desirable to wash or chemically clean the cases. Making them look clean and bright improves the appearance of the cartridge cases, but it also shortens their useful life. Don't do it.

Pushing out the empty primer can be done by hand, using a simple punch. However, the decapping punch on the tool will generally be used by the beginner. Set up the reloading tool for decapping by inserting the decapping punch. Then slide the cartridge case on to the decapping punch, feeling around so that the small end of the punch is in the flash hole. Push the handle of the tool forward until the primer is forced out of its pocket.

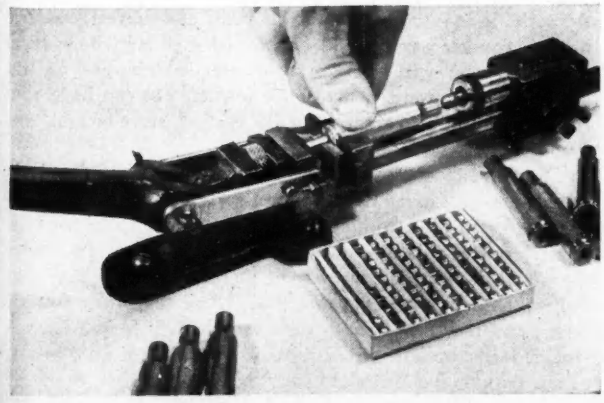


CLEANING THE PRIMER POCKET: The simplest method of doing this is to use a small screwdriver as shown. Use the blade of the screwdriver as a scraper, going around and around the bottom of the primer pocket to remove any foreign material until the bottom of the pocket is quite clean. At the same time, look through the vent to be sure that it is clear. It is well also to insert the screwdriver from the front end of the case and scrape across the vent to be sure that no little flap of metal is hanging there.

If the reloader is using military cartridges, he may find that the primers are crimped in. These are more difficult to remove than others but they can be dislodged by using sufficient force. After such primers are out, the crimp remaining around the rim of the primer pocket on the case should be removed by scraping with a penknife.

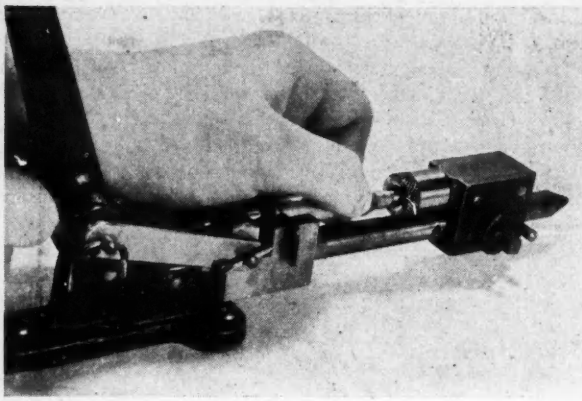


CHAMFERING THE NECK: If the inside edge of the neck of the cartridge case is square and sharp there will be difficulty in entering the base of the bullet without deforming it or even buckling the case itself. For this reason, the neck of the case must be chamfered with an inside bevel. This can be done with the blade of a sharp knife, but it is accomplished better and more uniformly if a reamer is used. The ordinary rose reamer available at the nearest hardware store will serve, though special neck-chamfering reamers are very inexpensive, and are a quite desirable accessory in even the 'minimum' loader's outfit. Simply enter the reamer into the neck of the cartridge case, press firmly and give two or three turns so as to make quite a distinct chamfered surface, which will guide the bullet so that it can enter the neck of the case squarely and without deforming.



RECAPPING: While modern reloading machines insert the primer at the same time the case is neck-sized and expanded, we will illustrate the recapping operation separately. The loading tool is set up with the proper neck-sizing die and expanding plug in place and a case is inserted with the neck located over the resizing plug. This will place the case in the correct position for the primer to be placed just behind the primer pocket. A backward pull on the handle of the tool will then force the cartridge case back so that the primer is forced into the primer pocket.

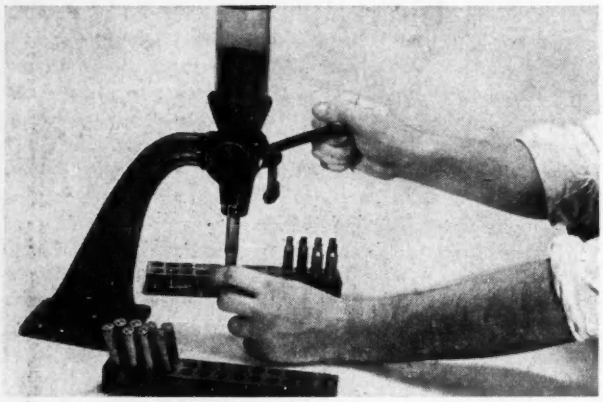
If the primer protrudes above the surface of the cartridge head, there may be danger of an accidental explosion; while if the primer is forced in too far, the cartridge may fail to fire. The tool *must* be adjusted so that the primers are pushed in to just the right degree and no farther.



NECK SIZING AND EXPANDING: Fired cases must have the necks tightened so they will again hold a bullet snugly. Variations in brass thickness make it necessary to do the final sizing from the *inside,* so the neck of the cartridge case is first squeezed down, then expanded by passing it over a steel plug.

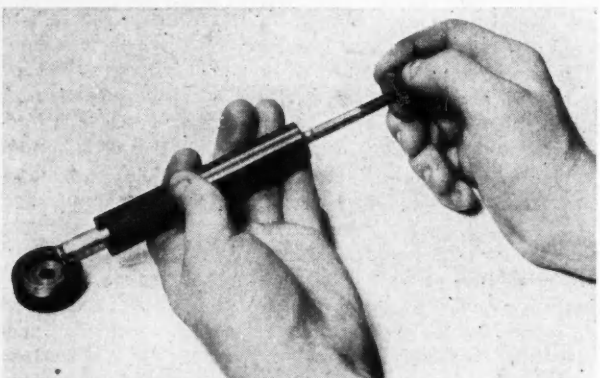
The machine is set up by inserting a neck-sizing die which has an expanding plug projecting from it. The tool is set so the forward stroke of the lever will force the case into the die just to the shoulder.

The case is placed so the expanding plug enters the neck and the neck enters the die. The handle of the tool is then pushed forward, forcing the case neck into the die and resizing it; the handle is then drawn back, pulling the neck out of the die and back over the plug, expanding the neck to just the diameter needed to grip the bullet firmly.



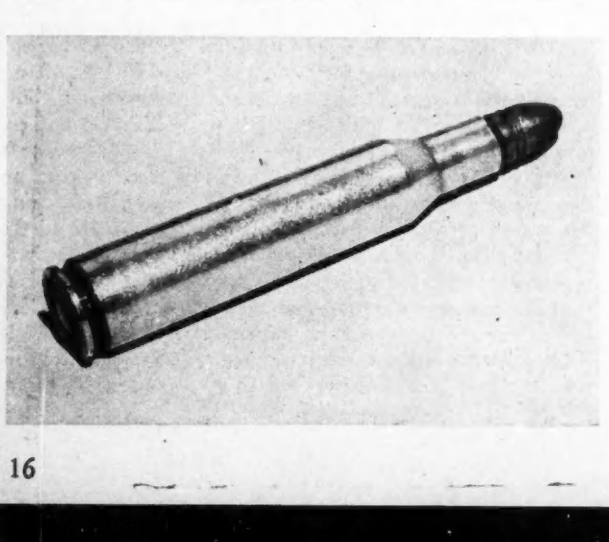
MEASURING THE POWER: Determine from the handbooks the kind and amount of powder to use, and the proper setting for the powder measure. (Caution: *heavy charges must be weighed.*) Fill the reservoir about half full, and throw a few charges to see that the measure is working properly.

Have two blocks of wood with holes for the cartridges. The one on the left is filled with empties. Put them in upside down. Hold every case upside down just before putting in powder, thus avoiding the danger of double charges. Take an empty from the left-hand block, and place the neck in the bottom of the tube. Raise the handle all the way, then turn it down. This allows the powder to fall into the case. Lift the striker attached to the measure and let it fall once to jar down any grains that stick in the tube. Set the charged case in the block at the right.



INSERT AND SEAT BULLETS: First determine proper seating depth by putting a bullet into an uncharged and preferably unprimed case and closing your rifle bolt on it. Adjust the plunger of the bullet seater and push the bullets in just a bit farther than in this sample. Then lock the plunger with the lock nut.

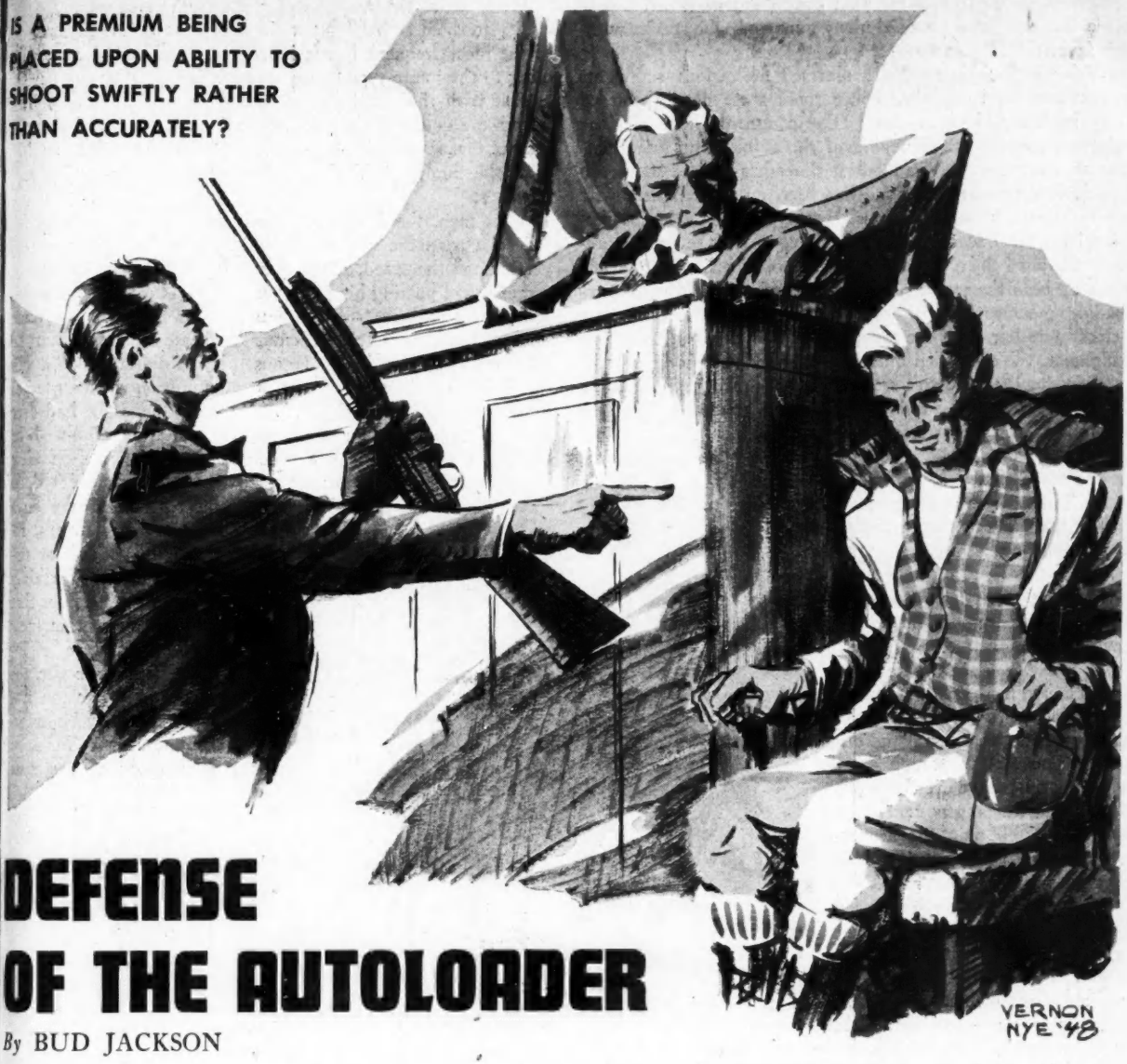
Either start the bullet in the neck of the case with the fingers and then insert the cartridge in the seating tool; or insert the charged case in the seating tool and put the bullet in the top of the tool, base down. Stand the tool on its base, which has a hole to clear the primer. Insert the plunger of the seating tool and push the bullet down until the plunger adjusting-nut strikes bottom. Then remove the loaded cartridge, prying it out if necessary with a screwdriver inserted in the notch in the bottom of the die.



THE FINISHED PRODUCT: Looks simple, doesn't it? Actually, it is just as simple as it looks, and perfectly safe as long as you are careful and do not attempt any super-duper loads. If you will stick to recommended charges for the bullets you are using, and load uniformly, you can have your fun with a gun at a fraction of the cost of 'store-bought' ammunition.

To complete its coverage of basic reloading problems, the RIFLEMAN will carry next month a survey of reloading equipment of every kind, to help you select the best value for your money, and for the specific job you want to do. In March there will be an article on the fine points of making your own bullets, both jacketed and cast lead. And for future issues a series, covering one caliber each month, which will include specific loads, bullets, reloading hints, and even a brief history of our best-known American cartridges. ● ● ●

IS A PREMIUM BEING PLACED UPON ABILITY TO SHOOT SWIFTLY RATHER THAN ACCURATELY?



DEFENSE OF THE AUTOLOADER

By BUD JACKSON

FROM MY SEAT at the battered desk in the Jackson den, I can look across the room into my gun cabinet and see the various items of artillery standing or hanging there. They form an interesting assortment for study since they likely provide a fair index of my outdoor likes and dislikes. The collection is not that of a gun-nut or crank. Every weapon there has a distinct and separate purpose. Their acquisition has been a twenty-odd year process.

They are as follows:

L. C. Smith double-barrelled shotgun, Ideal grade, 12 gauge, bored full and modified;

Remington auto-loading shotgun, Model 11, 20 gauge, with Polychoke, plugged to permit three shots;

Winchester rifle, .22 W.R.F. caliber (pump), holding twelve cartridges, with open sights;

Savage rifle, Model 99 (lever action), .300-Savage, with Weaver K-2.5 scope;

Remington rifle, Model 1903, .30-'06, with Weaver K-4 scope;

S&W revolver, Military & Police model, .38 caliber, 6-inch barrel.

A fairly versatile collection, you'll undoubtedly agree. Utilitarian, too. The Smith double is fine for pheasants, ducks, geese, and rabbits. The 20-gauge auto is our quail and dove gun, and a favorite for trap and skeet. The old .22 Special is called in where squirrels—occasionally cottontails—are the game. The Savage rifle is a pet for coyote, antelope, deer, and elk. The service '06, converted, is for use on coyote, antelope, goat, sheep, elk, bear, moose, or virtually anything else that gets in the way up to and including the hairy mammoth. Finally, that Smith & Wesson is for burglar insurance, no more no less. We've fired it on the range only enough to know it can discharge its duties with distinction. Every gun in the bunch fills a special need.

Some of the weapons are fairly old. Three of them made considerable dents in the family budget. With the exception of the bolt-action converted '06, all of them have seen enough use that I feel comfortable around them; they're old friends.

There, in some 250 words, is all that needs telling about the contents of my gun cabinet. It can be seen from the list of guns that the author is not carrying the torch for any particular type of weapon or any particular type of action. The

preface is needed to establish that the comments which follow come from one who has used many guns and who speaks without favoritism.

We've become increasingly alarmed at various comments which seem to be getting house room these days (some of them in reputable quarters). The comments have as their apparent purpose the scrapping of the autoloading gun, shotgun or rifle. No gun in modern times has excited more unfavorable comment and none has been more maligned. Its use is banned in some sections, notably Canada. Its bearers have been labelled as unsportsmanlike, to use the mildest adjective applied them, which—for our money is libel per se. It has long been the writer's feeling that most criticisms of autoloading models emanate from people who themselves were neither familiar with the type of gun nor qualified to render judgment. We satisfied ourselves on that point long ago.

That, however, doesn't seem to stop the charges from being levelled against the autoloading weapon. Among them are the following, perhaps most often repeated:

1) That auto-loaders encourage 'spraying the woods' (yep, you've heard that very phrase, haven't you?).

2) That they put a premium upon ability to shoot swiftly rather than to shoot accurately.

3) That they make for game hoggery.

4) That they have too much fire-power, hence will deplete the covers of game.

5) That they are unsafe.

Let's give analytical appraisal to these comments and test their validity. First, that 'spraying' business. The most thorough job of wild shooting we've ever been privileged to witness was contributed by a 57-year-old man armed with a single-shot 16-gauge shotgun. He shot at everything that moved. If it came out of the brush at his feet, he shot; if it flushed into the air, he shot. In short, he shot on suspicion, completely ignoring the possible effect his shot might have on his companions, passing vehicles, farm livestock, farm houses, or on the farmers themselves.

True his case is exceptional, but it is cited only to establish that it is possible to 'spray' with virtually any gun, however much or little ammunition it may hold at a given time. We have seen examples of indiscriminate shooting with the autoloader, to be sure. We have also seen them with various pump guns, double barrels, lever actions, bolt actions, and what-not. We wouldn't say the practice is confined to bearers of autoloaders or even that they tend to lead the field in this questionable category. For, you see, wild popping at everything which moves is not so much a characteristic of a gun as it is a characteristic of the man who carries that gun. That is worth remembering.

What about this business of a premium being placed upon ability to shoot swiftly rather than to shoot accurately? One of the most frequent boasts heard from the lips of men who cling to the pump type action shotgun is that they can "shoot as fast with this pump as you can with your automatic." I have some doubt of that, for while I have not timed them, I suspect that the autoloader can be fired somewhat more swiftly than the pump. There's a point being completely ignored, however.

Most men, thank Heaven, shoot at something. Thus, for the most part, the speed with which shots are discharged depends upon the speed of the gunner in finding the target (or targets) and putting his sights on it. This holds true whether the gun is an autoloader, a pump, a lever action, or some other. One fatherly gentleman told me recently that he frowned on the autoloader because he just didn't trust "a gun which will continue firing until its ammunition is exhausted as long as you hold the trigger." We asked him if he had ever fired an autoloader or seen one fired and he admitted he hadn't—a rather unnecessary admission, we submit, in view of his exhibition of ignorance as to what the autoloader does.

We do not honestly believe that most gunners or even a sizable percentage of gunners, regardless of the weapon, shoot unless they see the target. Certainly no man in his right mind does that and we prefer to believe that most sportsmen who hunt are right-minded. Even if they are not, the fact that a gunner shoots too fast for accuracy can scarcely be entertained as an indictment of his gun; that's an indictment of the man himself.

Contention number three we also accept only with copious helpings of salt. We simply cannot agree that the characteristics of the weapon make for game hoggery. We believe that we can shed some factual light on the accusation. When game wardens arrested four men with some 200 illegally killed ducks on a southwestern lake two years ago, what do you think they found those four men to be carrying in the way of armament? One pump gun and three double barrels! Not an autoloader in the squad.

More factual information. A few years ago when our duties as a newspaper reporter included covering one of the justice of the peace courts in our home town, we checked up on many of the persons brought to the bar of justice as game bag or possession limit violators. It was done purely for curiosity's sake but the results were more than casually interesting. We do not now recall the exact figures but the total number of violators checked up on was in excess of fifty, as we remember it. Nearly half of them, about forty percent, committed their over-the-limit violations with double-barrelled guns. About twenty-five percent (of which shotguns contributed twenty percent, rifles five percent) used pump type arms, another twenty-five percent used autoloaders (though we do not recall the rifle-to-shotgun ratio), while the remainder used single shots.

Even more enlightening are the results of an informal poll conducted by the writer early in 1948, in which form letters were mailed to one hundred

BUD JACKSON, editor of Outdoor America and writer for other outdoor publications, says, "I do not think a discussion on the subject of autoloading guns as opposed to other actions is out of place today. A lot of people, in describing the autoloader as 'unsportsmanlike,' are ascribing to a firearm qualities which it cannot possibly possess. Sportsmanship—or its lack—is human; guns are mechanical. Any weapon may be used in unsporting fashion, any may be used in sporting fashion. The gun merely assumes the character of the gunner."

persons whose names had appeared upon published arrest lists of a southwestern state during the past several years. In every case, the violation involved exceeding bag or possession limits of quail or ducks. The letters were identical with the exception that duck-law violators were asked what was their favorite gun for duck-hunting and quail-law violators were asked to name their favorite bird-hunting weapon. The letter commented only that we were engaged in some research into types of weapons used and suggested that names need not be signed to returned replies. A self-addressed, stamped envelope was enclosed for each reply.

Direct mail advertising is said to be successful if it produces a three percent response, which leads to the observation that Americans must like to brag on their guns, for 31 of the one hundred returned the information we sought. Their comments were a curious lot, ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous. One man assured us that he used a single-shot .410 gauge for all his hunting, proudly laid claim to having shot 37 quail in one day and confessed even that he'd been caught and fined as a consequence. For cussedness, we checked back to our violators' list and sure enough, there was a chap on it who fit the case. The man was a marksman, although admittedly a shameless game hog. Another chap admitted to using a 12-gauge pump gun upon which he had mounted a magazine extension enabling it to take ten shells at once, including the one in the chamber.

Of the 31 replies, ten revealed the use of double-barrelled shotguns, ten the use of pump action, nine the use of autoloaders, two the use of single shots. That seems rather conclusive evidence in our opinion that the autoloading *shotgun*, at least, contributes no more than any other gun to game hoggery. If it did, obviously more game hogs would have been using it. The gunner, not the gun, remember, is the game hog.

Next to be disposed of is the criticism that an autoloader has greater fire-power, hence will deplete covers. There's some mysterious reasoning at work there. First, the implication that a desire for greater fire-power is unsportsmanlike, is one unworthy of any man. What sort of a gunner would it be who didn't want the maximum fire-power for the game at hand? If you can grant the truth of the assertion that a wish for greater fire-power is unsportsmanlike, then conversely, we must grant that the lower the firepower, the greater the display of sportsmanship.

There's also an Ethiopian somewhere in the cordwood when one argues that the autoloader's fire-power will deplete the covers of game. Repeatedly, those who oppose the use of auto guns insist that the average possessor of same isn't a good shot. We've heard (and so have you, undoubtedly) many a chap claim that the autoloader isn't accurate (a claim which falls into the same category as most of those detailed herein). Now which of these things is true—that the auto gun is inaccurate or that it possesses the ability to entirely deplete our covers?

If there is anything reprehensible about the gun's greater fire-power, then we'd best be prepared to throw out the accumulated research knowledge of arms and ammunitions companies for many years. Proponents of limiting fire-power ought to go whole hog and insist upon a return to caveman days when food was raw, clothing was animal hides, and transportation was by Shank's mare.

Finally, there's that argument that the autoloader is unsafe. Recall the case of the man who inferred the auto gun would continue firing as long as you held the trigger down? His inference is as sound as the inference that the autoloader is less safe than other modern weapons. No gun is safe, in the strictest sense of the word. Guns weren't intended to be safe, in the same sense. Guns were designed for one purpose—to kill. Any gun, given the proper set of circumstances, will do it quickly and effectively. However, the so-called automatic, in good operating condition and mechanically sound, is no less safe than any other weapon in similar shape. It is here at its very strongest that the great misconception exists in regard to all guns, autoloaders or not.

It is *men*, the handlers of guns, who are truly unsafe, for men are unpredictable. Sound guns are *not* unpredictable.

In a very real sense, that sums up the whole controversy over autoloaders. Men who imply that this type of action is unsportsmanlike, inaccurate, too effective, unsafe, are ignoring a fundamental natural law. For these things are not attributes (or shortcomings) of mechanical contrivances such as guns. Where they exist at all, they are the attributes or shortcomings of men. A gun is inanimate. It has no characteristics of safety, sportsmanship, or other human qualities until and unless motivated by an animate influence.

You can place a cocked and loaded gun in your umbrella rack and leave it there and until something motivates it, some jar which releases the firing pin or touches the trigger, it is not apt to discharge. The man who loads that gun and cocks it and places it in the umbrella rack is the thing which is unsafe—not the gun. A gun will do only what it can do. It can initiate nothing. Some*body* has to initiate the action which fires that gun.

In the end analysis, we submit that the autoloading gun is the victim of much unjustified, highly-colored, imaginative criticism. It will do its job efficiently, quickly, cleanly, if the man who shoots it is the kind who does *his* job that way. If he isn't, it won't. Neither will any other gun in his hands. ● ● ●

NEXT MONTH: *To combat rising ammunition prices, the* RIFLEMAN *publishes a second article on handloading, giving readers a consumers' survey of loading tools—how to get the best tool for your money, and the best for the job to be done. Brescian firearms, 17th Century products of Italian gunmakers, will be the subject of an article by Stephen V. Grancsay, curator of armor and arms at the Metropolitan Museum of New York. The concluding installment of Hal McFarland's timely survey of Swiss rifle shooting will include information on Swiss arms as well as Swiss civilian shooting. Scene of the 1949 International Shooting Union competition, the elaborate Buenos Aires range, in Argentina, will be covered in an article by A. Engelhardt. Handgun shooters can look forward to Harlan B. Carter's directions for altering stocks so they'll fit.*

Enough water to fill five quart-size milk bottles is sometimes extracted from one blank of wood before it is dry enough to shape into a rifle stock

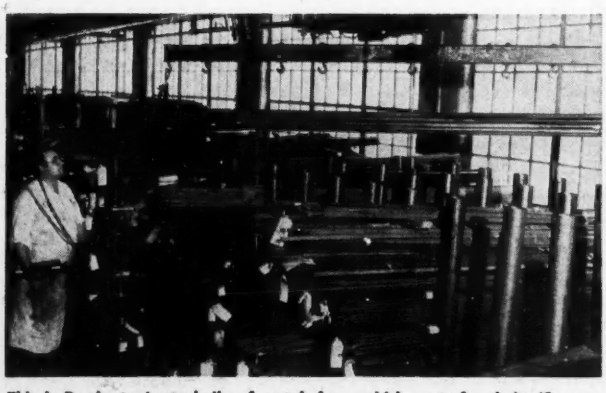
HOW RIFLES ARE MADE

ANOTHER IN THE RIFLEMAN'S SERIES OF 'PERSONALLY-CONDUCTED' TOURS THROUGH AMERICA'S GREAT ARMS AND AMMUNITION MANUFACTURING PLANTS

Photographs for THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN by R. L. Reish and Howard Moore

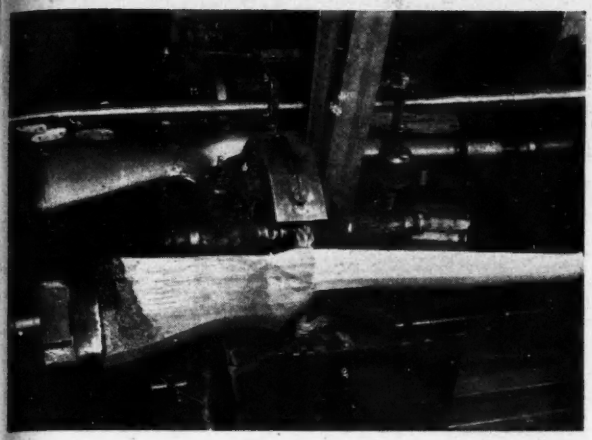
When Eliphalet Remington produced his first rifle (a muzzle-loading flintlock) in 1816, even that eager youngster could hardly have envisioned the great factories that would bear his name a century and a third later. Today at Ilion, New York (where Remington rifles are made) and at Bridgeport, Connecticut (site of Remington ammunition manufacture) sprawling, noisy factories attest to the vision of a 'teen-age boy who thought there might be a market for good rifles stamped with his name. The company he founded has had its ups and downs, its changes and reorganizations born of war and depression, but always its identity with old Eliphalet Remington has been kept. Now one of the nation's top producers of arms and ammunition, its name is a by-word whenever men speak of firearms.

Here, in exclusive RIFLEMAN pictures, is a step-by-step story of one phase of Remington activity—the manufacture of rifles. In most instances, Remington's big, popular model 37 target rifle is shown, as being typical of the way in which delicate handwork and exacting specifications have been reconciled with the mass-production methods so characteristic of a country where 140,000,000 eager customers clamor for goods faster than their manufacturers can produce them.

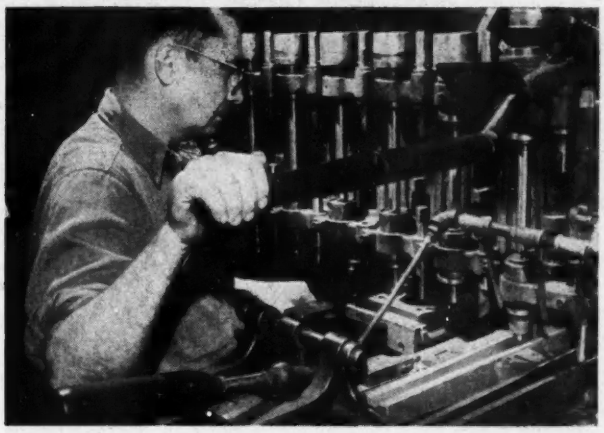


This is Remington's stockpile of metal, from which parts for their rifles are cut to length before machining. Many different grades of metal are used

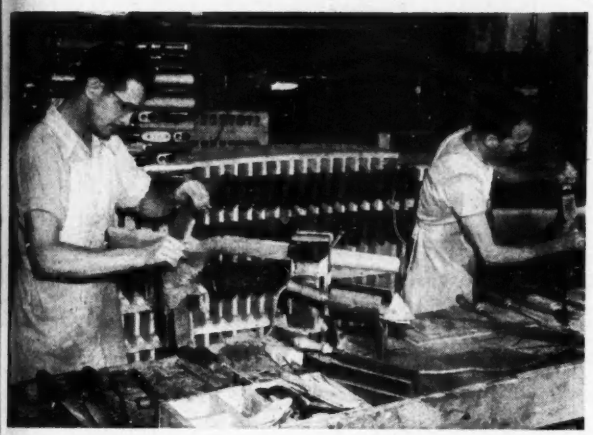
Last operation in long manufacturing process is this inspection before shipment. During manufacture, even more rigid inspections control rifle quality



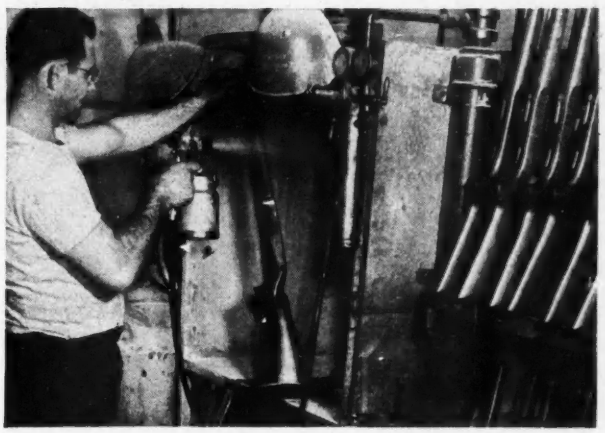
Eccentric lathe, invented over a century ago by Massachusetts-born Thomas Blanchard, is used to bring stock blank to rough shape. Metal form in background guides cutter as both form and gunstock blank revolve in the lathe



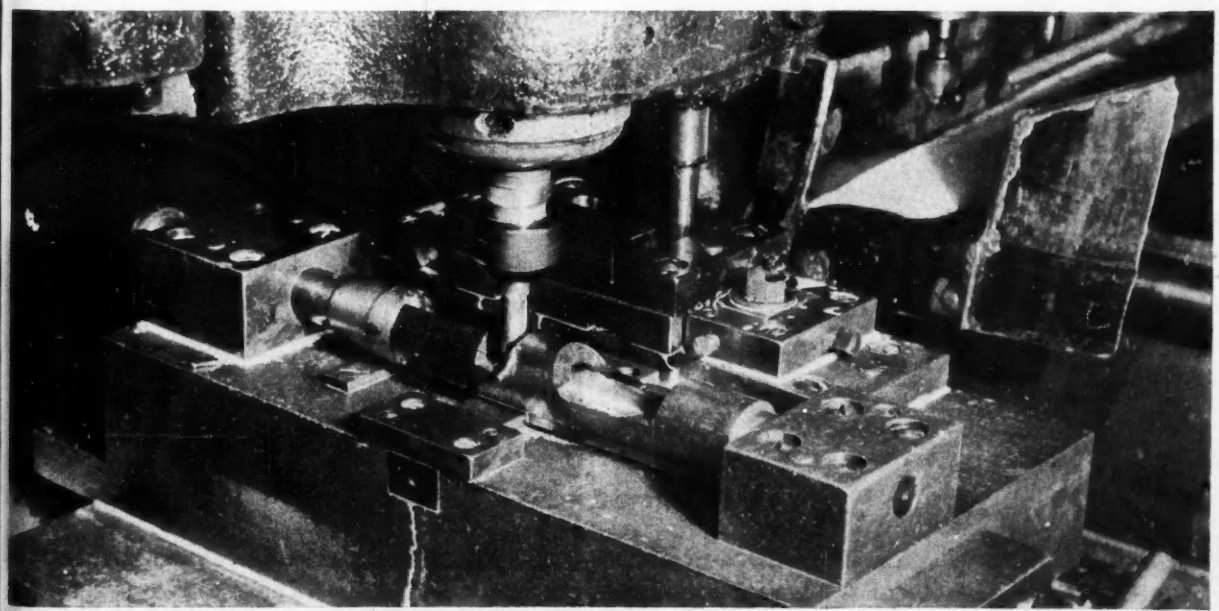
Rough inletting is done on this complex machine by Remington employee Mike Perone. Separate cutting tools are used for each different contour and depth. Stock shown in this and opposite photograph is for Remington 721



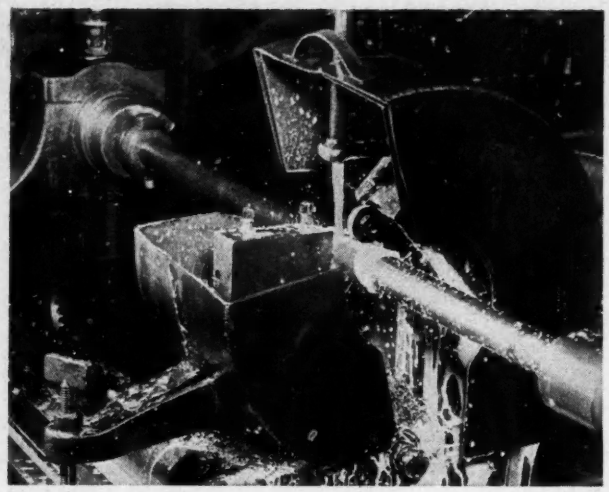
After bulk of wood has been removed by turning, drilling and machine sanding, final shaping and sanding must be done by skilled hand work



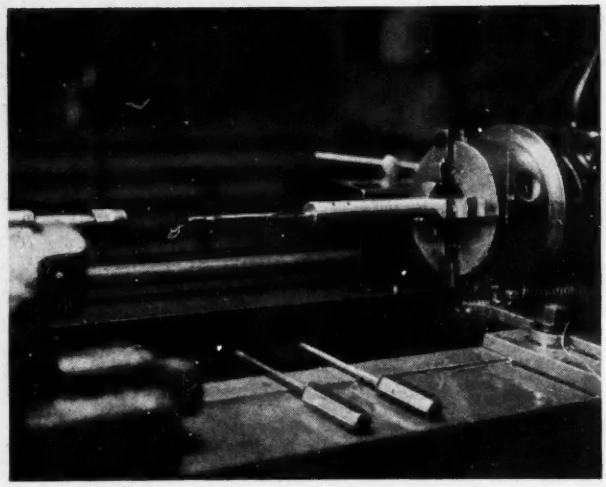
After final hand finishing, rifle stocks are sprayed with a tough, durable finish. Cost of 'rubbed oil' finish on commercial rifle would be prohibitive



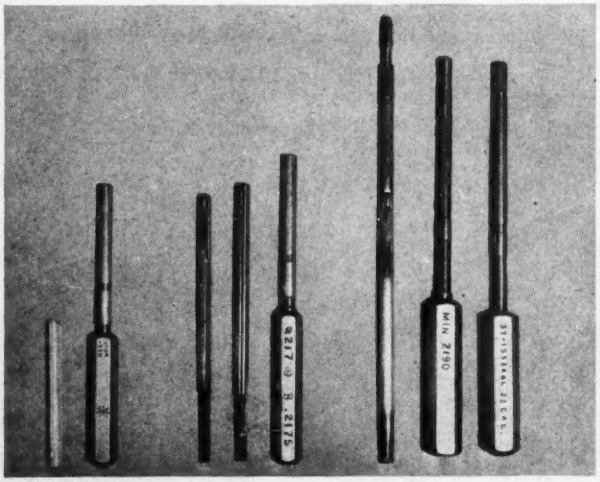
Rotary cutter roughs out bolt-handle slot in model 37 action. Note L-shaped guide behind receiver, in which pin moves to control exact dimensions of cut



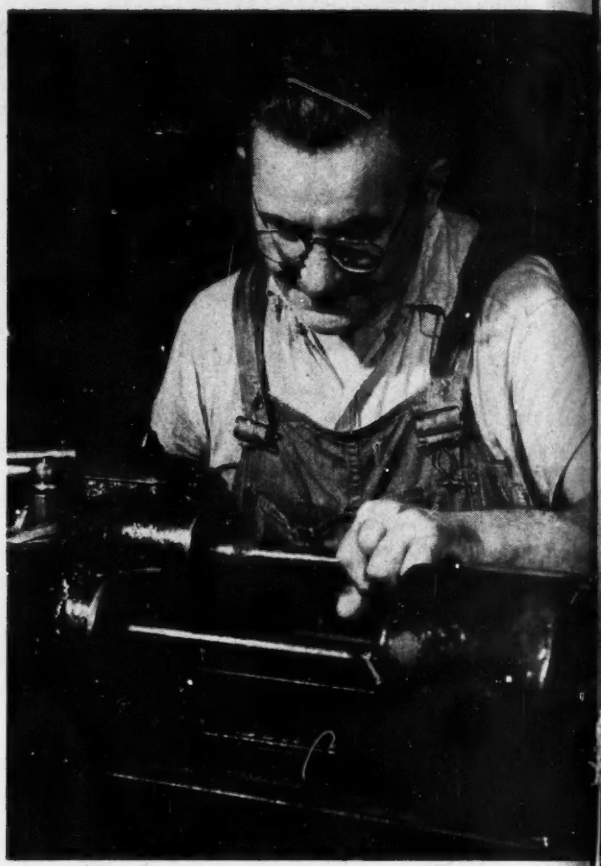
Before it is ready for rifling, the rough barrel blank is ground to outside dimensions. White liquid is a water-soluble lubricant which flows continuously



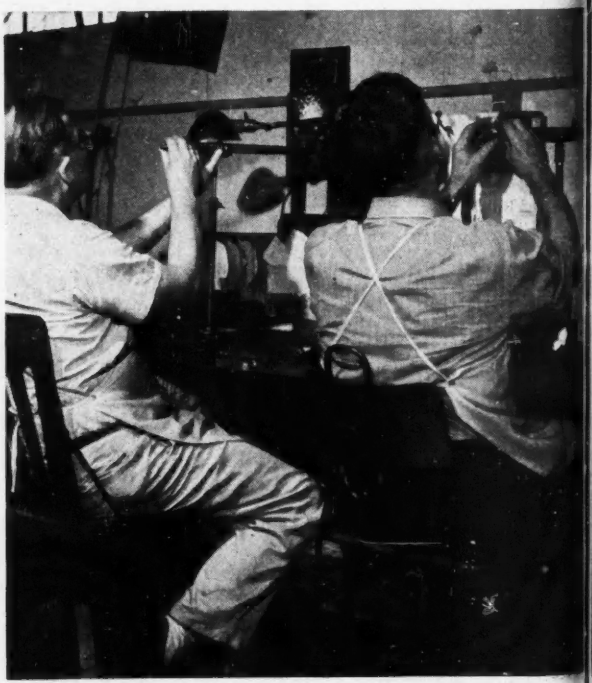
Most critical operation in whole manufacturing sequence is rifling. Here cutter is shown emerging from end of model 37 barrel, and is about to be pulled back through. Diameter and depth of cuts must be controlled to exacting tolerance. In foreground are two gauges used in rifling barrel



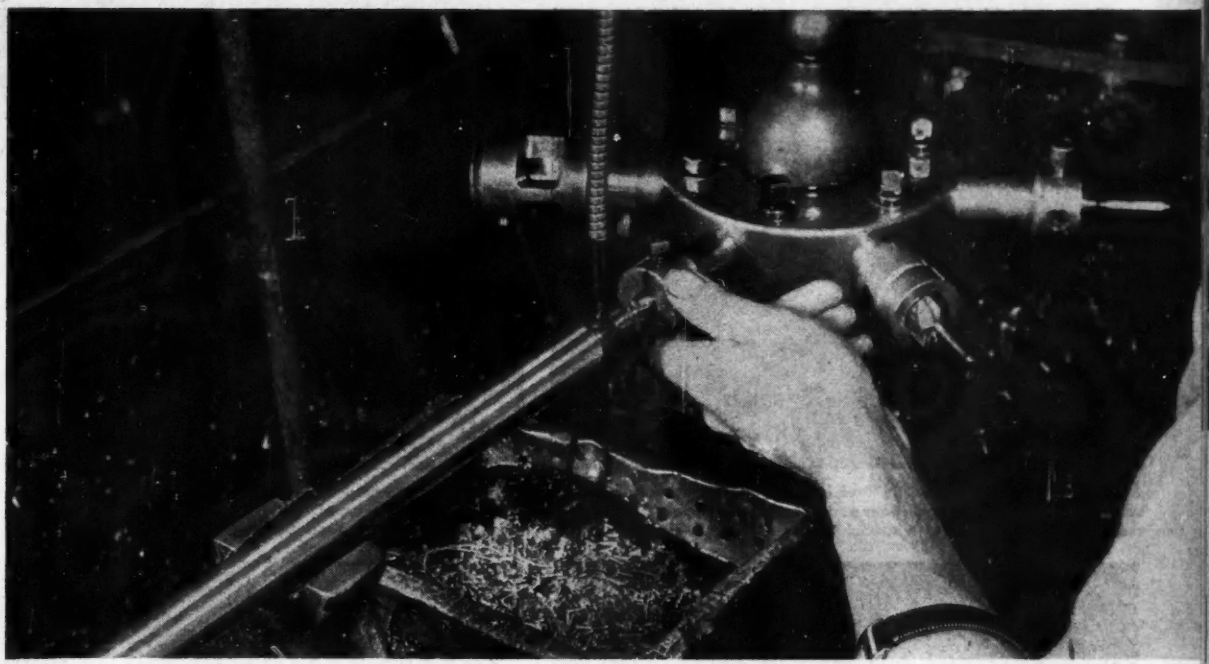
These are drilling and rifling tools. Left to right: Barrel drill and plug gauge; rough and finish reamers, and plug gauge; in last group, rifling head with cutter in place, and diameter and twist gauges. All are .22 cal.



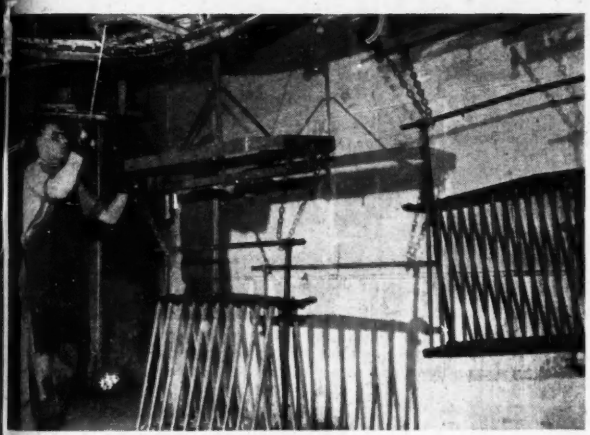
In deep-hole drilling, barrel revolves against stationary drill. Average time for a .22-caliber barrel is 35 minutes. John Mihalik (above) has been with Remington 37 years, is one of few who can set up his own machine



After rifling, barrels are inspected critically. Any with defects (tears, rings, scratches) are discarded at this stage. This is one of the many inspections which must be made if quality of product is to be controlled



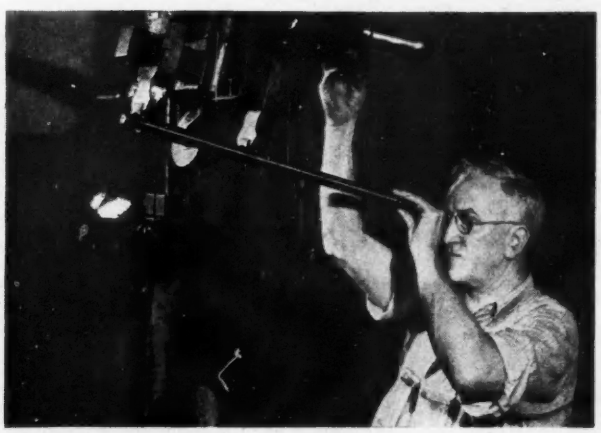
In chambering, barrel revolves and successive cutters are used in turret head shown here. Constant flow of lubricant must be used



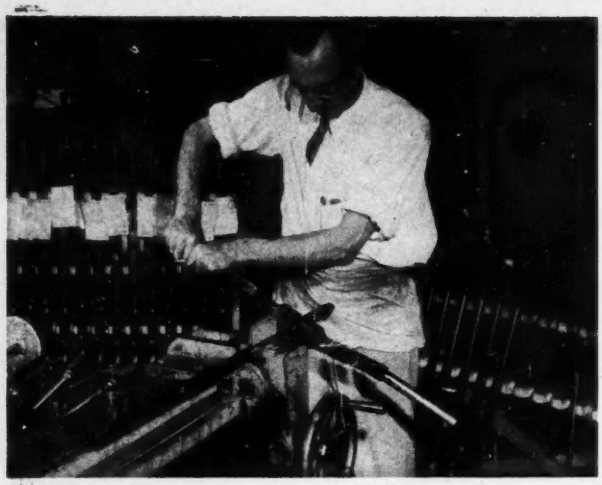
For bluing, barrels are first preheated, and are moved on overhead conveyor. This prevents contact with greasy hands, which would spoil finish

Barrels are coated with solution and outside surfaces are allowed to rust in a humidity room. Acid bath then converts brown color to a deep blue-black

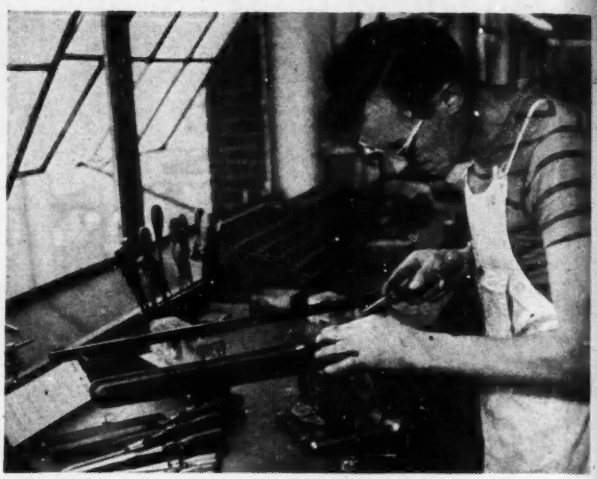
After each of four exposures in humidity room, barrel is 'carded' to remove excess oxide. Logwood dye is then used to give luster to the barrel finish. Same process is used with major parts of all Remington rifles, including 37



For 37 years Robert Murray has done nothing but straighten barrels. Murray looks at straight, thin line through bore, and can detect irregularities if reflection of line in bore appears broken or bent. Job demands great skill

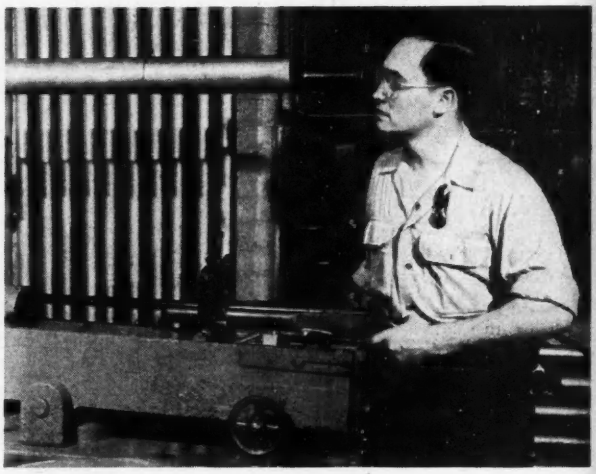


Remington employee Percy Mickle threads action and barrel together in one of final manufacturing stages. Both parts have been completed before this assembly. Note the use of a special wrench and vise with padded jaws

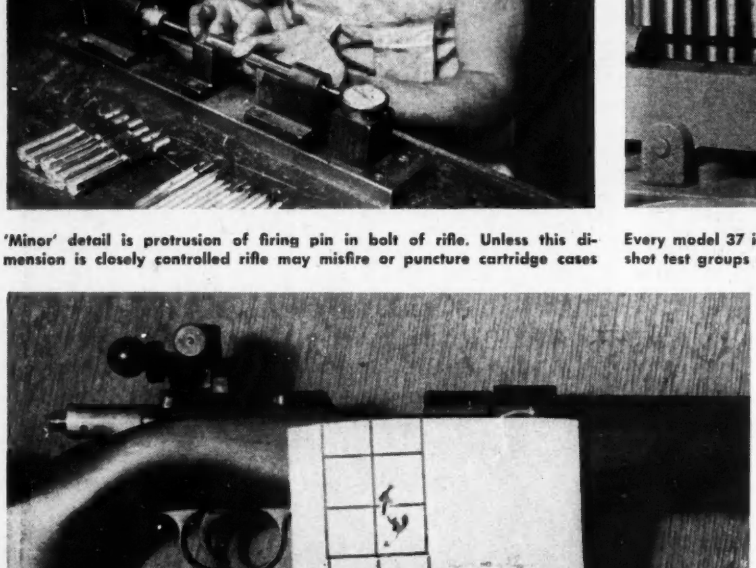


Before barrel and stock can become a working team, barrel must be painstakingly bedded in wood. This is time consuming, and must be done by hand. On average, hand bedding means four hours of skilled work

'Minor' detail is protrusion of firing pin in bolt of rifle. Unless this dimension is closely controlled rifle may misfire or puncture cartridge cases



Every model 37 is tried in a machine rest on Remington's own range. Ten-shot test groups are fired and target (below) is filed for each 37 produced



THE RIFLE at the left, and the test target resting against it, are symbolic of the skill and know-how of American arms manufacturers. Every step in its production has been controlled to eyelash tolerances. Every refinement is the end result of more than a century of trial and experiment. It has had to pass a 'graduation' test for accuracy before it could be considered finished. Like the output of many another arms manufacturer it represents a continuing tradition of fine workmanship and skill deeply rooted in the American past, plus an awareness of the necessity for mass production that is itself peculiarly American.

Far from being a 'luxury,' the armsmaking plants which dot New England are one of the best guarantees of American freedom; and the shooters who buy American arms are doing their part to keep alive and active an industry which time and again has poured guns into the hands of America's fighting men. ◆ ◆ ◆

Accuracy from the bench rest

By COL. TOWNSEND WHELEN

THE ANNUAL MATCHES of the Bench Rest Shooters Association at Johnstown, New York, September fourth to sixth, were most interesting, and I have never seen or heard of such fine accuracy as was attained. There were fifty-three competitors shooting in the eighteen 5-shot matches at 100 yards, five 5-shot matches at 200 yards, and the Donaldson Trophy Match of ten shots at 200 yards.

Clair Taylor made the smallest group at 100 yards, measuring .187-inch. Samuel Clark, Jr.'s group of .541-inch was the smallest at 200 yards. Marcey Prescott won the Donaldson Trophy Match with a group measuring 1.408-inches. There were seventy-three groups at 100 yards that measured under a half inch, and only thirteen that went 2 inches or over. At 200 yards fifty groups were under one inch, and twenty-three competitors *averaged* under two inches. All of the winners used heavy .219 Donaldson-Wasp match rifles.

All of the competitors used two sandbags for resting the rifle on the bench, with only slight variations from the usual technique (see "Bench Rest Technique," RIFLEMAN, October and November, 1947). The most noticeable variation was an iron pedestal, adjustable for height, used to hold the front sandbag in position and shape. It was used by Manley Butts, who won the 100 yard aggregate, and by Clair Taylor. It contributes to the elimination of human errors. Sam Clark made up two similar pedestals, one of which he was good enough to give me; both of us think it is a very worthwhile aid.

The pedestal consists of a heavy iron base which carries a curved iron trough, adjustable for height by means of a large screw with lock nut. The trough holds the small chamois-covered sandbag at a slight curve so as to furnish a channel rest for the forearm of the rifle and prevent side slipping. The sandbag should not be tightly packed with sand. A smaller sandbag supports the stock in front of the toe as customary. By means of this rear bag and the adjustable height of the iron pedestal, the scope reticule is brought to rest on the aiming point before the shooter grasps the rifle.

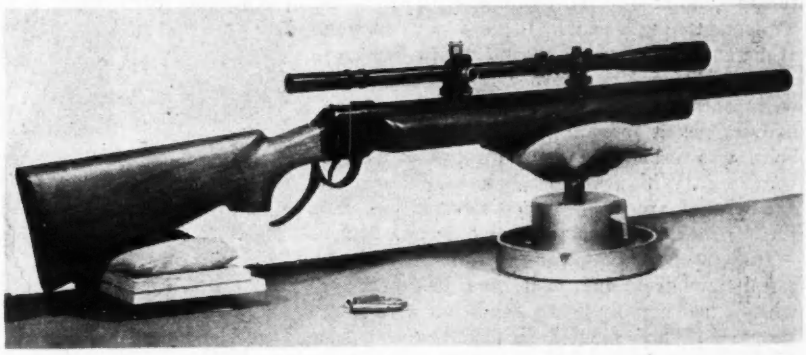
My own technique of firing, which proved quite successful and which I give for what it is worth, was as follows. I hold the 12-pound .22 Varminter rifle with the buttplate just touching my shoulder, and when it is discharged it recoils straight back quite freely about two inches. I align the reticule first an inch below the aiming point, press slightly on the small of the stock, which causes the reticule to raise to the aiming point, then squeeze. This assures a more uniform pressure of the rifle down on the bags. When discharged the rifle always recoils straight up.

Another new development was the construction of the bullets. All winners used 50- to 55-grain pointed, copper-jacketed bullets which they made themselves in R.C.B.S. dies, except Manley Butts who used quite similar bullets made in dies of his own manufacture. Clair Taylor also used Butts' bullets. A few, myself included, used Morse 8-S bullets. It has been found that in making bullets in the R.C.B.S. dies, no effort should be made to extrude the core up into the point of the bullet. The lead core extends up only to within about 3/16-inch of the point of the bullet, leaving the front part of the jacket empty and hollow. Seemingly, if sufficient pressure is applied in the Pacific tool to extrude the core up into the point, thus making it a soft-point bullet with a pin point of lead exposed, the pressure distorts the bullet so it does not shoot so accurately. Bullets so prepared have been used many times on woodchucks, and they invariably perform excellently—they are really hollow-point bullets.

Another gadget which appears to be most excellent is a 'uniform weight core forming die' made by Ray Biehler, 1597 Ridge Road, W, Rochester, N. Y. It forms the cores to exact length, diameter, and shape, and, by extruding surplus lead in a little thread, insures uniform weight to within 1/10th grain.

At the annual meeting at the conclusion of the matches the Association voted to hereafter divide their matches into two classes, one for 'any rifle' without restrictions as at present, and the other for the 'field rifle', the weight of which must not exceed 12 pounds, including scope, and otherwise be of a type that a shooter could conveniently carry into the field for hunting away from his car. This is a move in the right direction. The principal aim of the Association is improvement in accuracy and reliability in rifles. Basically a rifle is a weapon with which to kill ones enemies and food. It is therefore the 'field rifle' which we wish to develop ultimately, but at the same time we can perhaps best develop the important features in the heavy 'any rifle' where results are not so hidden and confused.

I have noticed a move on the part of some members to improve the accuracy of rifles larger in caliber than .22. It is a very decided move, and in the immediate future our members might be able to give valuable information looking to the improvement of rifles for international free rifle competitions.

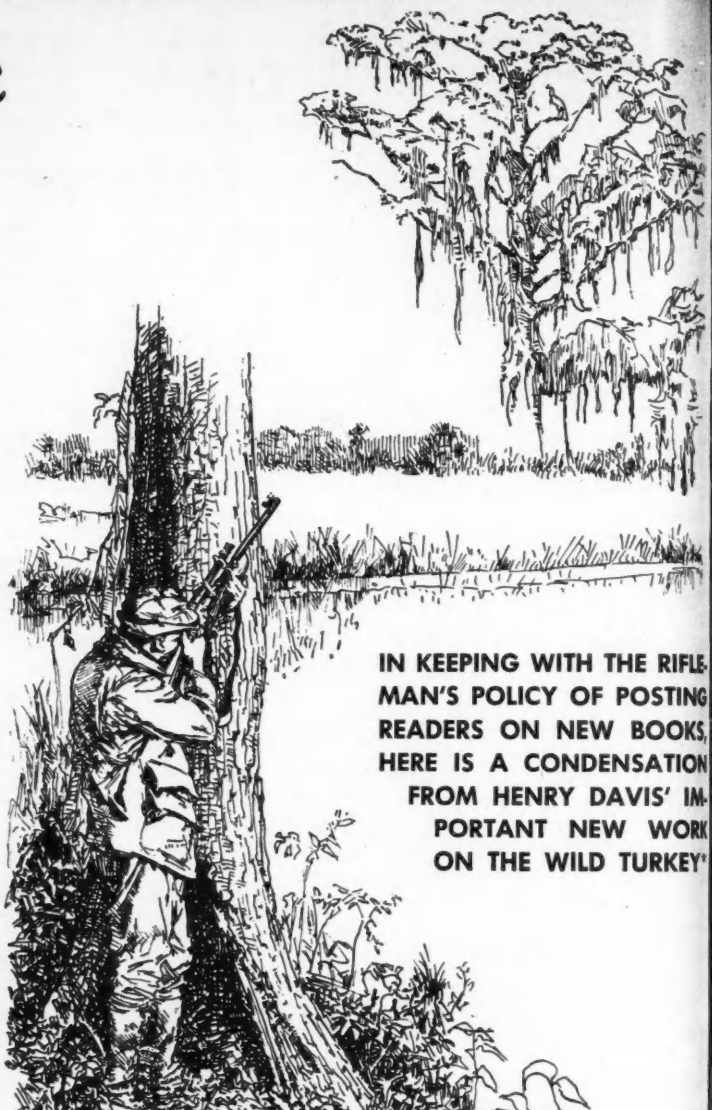


A variation in bench rest technique was introduced at the annual matches of the Bench Rest Shooters Association by Manley Butts, who uses this iron pedestal, adjustable for height, to support the fore-end of the rifle rests. With it the scope reticule can be brought to rest before grasping the rifle

During the past season Manley Butts has fired one hundred and fifty 5-shot groups at 100 yards in competition with his .219 Donaldson Wasp rifle and bullets formed in dies of his own making, and no group has been larger than .5625-inch. I have one of his groups before me, fired in practice, that measures .27-inch. Also, I have ten 10-shot groups fired at 100 yards by Samuel Clark, Jr. with his .219 Wasp and bullets made by him in R.C.B.S. dies. The smallest is .28-inch and the largest .40-inch, as close as I can measure. As you know, there is usually a whale of a difference between a 5- and a 10-shot group, but this difference grows smaller as rifles and ammunition approach perfection. ● ● ●

Rifles for Turkeys

By HENRY E. DAVIS



IN KEEPING WITH THE RIFLEMAN'S POLICY OF POSTING READERS ON NEW BOOKS, HERE IS A CONDENSATION FROM HENRY DAVIS' IMPORTANT NEW WORK ON THE WILD TURKEY*

AN EXPERIENCE with an old gobbler in Great Pee Dee swamp led me to decide to try hunting turkeys with a rifle. One afternoon I roosted a big drove of young turkeys and old hens not far from the river. After spending the night at the club house, a companion and I went back to the site the next morning, which required a walk before daylight of fully two miles. We chose what we considered good positions some distance apart. For some reason, however, neither of us succeeded in calling a bird. After our drove had assembled and gone their way to a feeding ground, I was just getting ready to give with my hunting horn our signal to meet when a very large old gobbler came marching down a slough directly in front of me. His approach was from a direction directly opposite to the location of the other turkeys, and he came on with measured tread and without uttering a sound. When directly in front of me and about a hundred and twenty-five yards away, he stopped and gave a loud cluck. I was well concealed and for the next ten or fifteen minutes we at intervals exchanged a few calls, but I was unable to make him move an inch towards me. With a final loud cluck he moved off, and when I arose and started towards him at a run, he took wing and thus made a quick escape.

It was most exasperating to have that old rascal stand there and, as it were, just mock me, when I had nothing in my hands but a 12-gauge shotgun! I had suffered similar treatment from a gobbler many times before, but this time I resolved to do something about it. I feel certain that if I had had with me that morning a good Hornet or K-Hornet rifle, he would have gone home with me instead of hying himself away to safety. So I started out to find the proper rifle to take these wise old fellows that were accustomed to treat me with such contempt.

I determined to have nothing but the most accurate, whether custom or factory made. After reading quite a lot in praise of the .25-35 caliber, I selected it as my first turkey cartridge. Accordingly I acquired a Winchester single-shot action, and on it had Niedner Rifle Corporation build me a rifle for it. This rifle was fitted with a peep rear sight, and was quite accurate. Soon after I got it, I had a chance to test it out. I was sitting on a deer stand at the end of a long pond along which grew some very large pines, when the hounds jumped a deer and came across the swamp towards me in full cry. Suddenly a big gobbler flew up ahead of the oncoming pack and took refuge in one of the big pines. He was about a hundred and twenty-five yards away, and rather well concealed among the thick limbs and straw. After considerable search, I finally located him. Getting myself in the prone position, with the rifle resting on my left hand and steadied by a convenient tree, I sought to align the sights on him. His long tail projected downward like a board, and with this as a guide I gradually raised the muzzle until the sights appeared to be dead on the butt of the wing, and then I fired. At the report he crumpled and came tumbling down. He checked himself, however, when about halfway to the ground, and then headed straight away. He passed within a hundred yards of my position with his left leg dangling, indicating a break in the thigh, and with every appearance of being mortally wounded. The timber was too thick to observe him to the end of his flight, but three weeks later and a mile away we found his carcass, which had been badly mangled by half-wild hogs.

About that time I got hold of Tom Turpin's little book entitled, *Hunting the Wild Turkey,* and noted that he cited

*From The American Wild Turkey, by Henry E. Davis, published by Small-Arms Technical Publishing Company, Georgetown, South Carolina. Illustrated by Gayle Hoskins. The book is available from the publisher.

experiences similar to mine with the .25-35 cartridge. I therefore decided to dispose of my rifle in that caliber, which I promptly did.

After discarding the .25-35, I next acquired a .25 Remington built on the refined Remington 30-S version of the Enfield action. My experience with the gobbler I shot at in the pine with the .25-35 convinced me that for hunting turkeys, a good telescope sight was a 'must'. The .25 Remington was equipped with a 4X Hensoldt scope in a Niedner mount. This outfit gave fairly satisfactory results on turkeys even up to 150 yards, but the jacketed bullets could not always be depended on for instant kills and mushrooming bullets were too destructive of flesh. I killed one turkey with this rifle at sixty-five yards that was reduced to a pulp, a high-speed soft-point bullet having been used by mistake. The telescope for some reason would not stay zeroed, and after I had missed with this rifle two shots at a big gobbler standing in a pine within easy range, I retired it.

When the .25 Roberts cartridge was announced, my brother and I adopted it for woodchuck hunting. I had Niedner replace the .25 Remington barrel with a slightly heavier 24-inch barrel chambered for the .25 Roberts cartridge, and this became my favorite woodchuck rifle until the advent of the .22-3000 Lovell. I also had Niedner build for me on Springfield actions several other .25 Roberts rifles with different twists so as to determine by actual test which is the best twist for this cartridge, and finally settled on the 10-inch which is on the Remington action. He also built for me a .250-3000 on a Springfield action with an 11-inch twist. Both of these cartridges are excellent for ground hogs, but I never found a .25 caliber jacketed bullet that could always be depended on as a turkey killer. A full-jacketed .25 caliber bullet weighing 117 grains when driven at around 2,700 foot-seconds should prove efficient for such a purpose without causing undue mutilation, but you can never be certain it will not key-hole at long range, even with the twists of rifling I adopted.

I got quite a freak performance once with the .25 Roberts with the 10-inch twist. A turkey hen sailed out over a big flat pond and perched in the top of a tall cypress about a hundred yards from me. From the prone position, assisted by a tree rest, I fired at the butt of the left wing with a load of 38 grains of number 1147 powder behind a 117-grain full-jacketed boattail bullet. The bullet struck exactly where I held, shattered the shoulder joint, ran along under the skin on the left side until it reached the hip, which it likewise shattered, and finally came out through the left drumstick. And with all that smashing, the little turkey had plenty of life left when I picked it up. I have never been able to see why such a relatively heavy bullet was so deflected by that shoulder as not to go through the turkey.

The father of modern high velocity .22 caliber cartridges, Captain Grosvenor L. Wotkyns, announced the modern version of the .22 Hornet cartridge in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN of June, 1930. He called it the small game express, and subsequently that great rifleman, my good friend Col. Townsend Whelen, who had much to do with its development, dubbed it the 'Hornet'. From Captain Wotkyns' account, I sensed that the ideal cartridge for wild turkeys had at last been developed. In the issue of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN of September, 1930, Colonel Whelen strongly recommended that the .22 caliber Springfield rifle be used as a foundation for conversion to the Hornet, and that it be equipped with a Lyman telescope. Following some correspondence with the Colonel, I procured such a rifle and had Capt. G. A. Woody, then of Springfield Arsenal, chamber it for the Hornet. I first equipped it with a Hensoldt 4X scope in a Niedner mount, and with the Winchester original factory load, which drove a 45-grain soft-point bullet at 2,300 foot seconds, it proved very satisfactory on varmints of all sorts. But I never could make it hold its zero with that scope. One morning while preparing to go on a turkey hunt I took the precaution to check the telescope adjustments before leaving camp. They were found to be badly off, both for windage and for elevation, and were corrected accordingly. This check paid handsomely, as on account of it I was enabled to kill that day a nice gobbler at a range of more than a hundred yards. The bullet killed instantly, drilled a clean hole somewhat larger than a pencil clear through him and spoiled no meat. This was the kind of performance I had been trying to get on turkeys, but I found I could never rely on that telescope, so I sold it. Henceforth, I confined myself to Lyman 5A and Fecker telescopes, but I had several of the latter remodeled by John Unertl.

I never fired a more accurate rifle than this Springfield Hornet, and I have made many spectacular kills with it on hawks and crows when using high-speed handloads carrying 40-grain bullets. Never could I make it perform, however, with more than one load with a single setting of the scope. For instance, if it was set for the 2,300 foot-second factory load, you could get no semblance of accuracy with a high speed 40-grain load. In this respect it acted exactly like a single shot. I have never seen one of the latter (and I have seen a plenty) that could be used with two different loads with the same sight setting. This is not true of Winchester factory-made rifles on either the Model 54 or the Model 70

When a wild turkey halts, stands full height, and flirts that little blue head about twice, he has seen enough. Quick as a flash he is gone

action. On account of this peculiarity, I never liked to hunt with this Springfield rifle, as I want to carry along some short range loads with which I can kill a few squirrels if no turkeys are to be found. This rifle served no such dual purpose. After I disposed of the Hensoldt scope, I had the entire rifle refinished by Niedner and Owen, and restocked by Owen. It is one of the finest rifles I have ever seen, but it now only adorns my gun cabinet.

In its issue of May, 1933, THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN announced the Winchester Model 54 in .22 Hornet caliber, and I lost no time in getting one. I immediately restocked

it with a blank of French walnut, making the stock of Monte Carlo pattern, with high comb, Howe concave cheekpiece, full pistol grip, and full rounded fore-end. All of my bolt-action hunting rifles since that time have been fitted with identical stocks, and they have given the highest accuracy and a perfect fit. I shot this rifle exclusively on turkeys for three seasons.

The Model 70 Winchester was announced by THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN in its issue of November, 1936, and shortly thereafter I got one in the .22 Hornet caliber. The rifle was restocked with a stock like that on the Model 54, and thereafter I used the two rifles interchangeably for hunting, though I gradually drifted to the Model 70. I killed more turkeys perhaps with the Model 54 than any rifle I ever owned, but I killed a number with the Model 70. Each of these rifles was equipped with a Lyman 5-A scope, which was never removed from the rifle.

The best load for young turkeys up to 100 yards was the Winchester factory load driving a 45-grain soft-point bullet at 2,400 feet a second. For all turkeys at ranges beyond 100 yards and for old gobblers at all ranges, I found the factory high-speed loads of 2,600 feet velocity with 45-grain soft-point or hollow-point bullets to be best. In handloads, a charge of 10.8 grains of No. 4227 powder gives the 45-grain soft-point bullet a muzzle velocity of 2,410 foot-seconds, while a charge of 10.3 grains of No. 2400 powder gives to the same bullet a muzzle velocity of 2,600 foot-seconds. These handloads are practically duplicates, respectively, of the two factory loads above mentioned, and are fully as accurate.

Old hunters call turkey with the lips or a caller made from the small bone of the second joint of a turkey wing, with each end cut off and the interior cleaned. One end of the bone is placed in the mouth and the other covered with cupped hands which regulate the sound

I continued to use these two Winchester Hornets on turkeys with the utmost satisfaction until the winter of 1940. With the two handloads I made up, they were ideal for such game. In addition, with the same scope setting they handled perfectly long-range 40-grain bullet loads and 35-grain bullet short-range loads. With the latter I killed dozens of squirrels, and with the former scores of crows and hawks during these years. The scope on each rifle was set for a dead center hit at 100 yards with the load of 2,400 foot-seconds velocity. This meant center for the 35-grain load at 50 yards, one inch high for the high-speed 45-grain load and two inches high for the high-speed 40-grain load at 100 yards. One rifle performed as good as the other, and as the stocks and telescopes were duplicates, the only difference between them was the trigger pull, which I found more satisfactory on the Model 70. However, I used the Model 54 a great deal as I shot out one barrel on it. Owing to increasing dissatisfaction with the trigger pull, I finally sold it in 1947, after the factory had installed a new barrel. With either barrel, a more accurate rifle was never made, and if it had not been for that sloppy trigger, money could not have bought it from me.

On New Year's day, 1940, I accidentally 'ringed' the barrel of my Model 70 Hornet by firing it unwittingly when it had ice in it that entered when I exposed the rifle to a heavy snowfall. Instead of having a new barrel installed, I sent this rifle to J. E. Gebby, Dayton, Ohio, and bought for myself a new Model 70 Hornet. Under my instructions, the bulged barrel was relined with a tube having six grooves and a .224-inch groove diameter, and chambered for the latest version of the Kilbourn-Hornet case. At the same time I set out to get a telescope specially adapted to this K-Hornet rifle. On these Winchester bolt actions, I always have target telescope bases, installed one on the receiver bridge and the other on the breech of the barrel in a position to give an intermount distance of 6.75 inches. First, I procured a special target type 4X Fecker scope sixteen inches long, with click mounts. I then sent this to John Unertl and had him fit to it a 26 mm. objective and change the telescope to a six power. This special telescope is equipped with a medium cross-hair reticule, and is the best instrument of its kind I have ever found. As soon as I got it, the telescope was placed on the Model 70 K-Hornet, and it has stayed there ever since. The rifle was duly sighted in, and was found to be exceptionally accurate with a number of loads. I finally settled on these four:

Charge	*Powder*	*Bullet*
13.2 grains	No. 4227	45-grain Remington Soft-Point
10.5 grains	No. 2400	45-grain W. R. A. Soft-Point
11.5 grains	No. 4227	45-grain W. R. A. Soft-Point
8.8 grains	No. 4227	35-grain full-jacketed Sisk

The rifle handles all of these loads efficiently with the same sight setting. This is the best hunting rifle I have ever owned for all small game including turkeys. The load of 13.2 grains of No. 4227 powder behind the 45-grain Remington soft-point bullet is, I believe, the most powerful center-fire cartridge for its size in existence today. The velocity must be in excess of 3,100 feet a second, and it smashes what it hits. It is extremely accurate, and I have made kills on hawks and crows at ranges far over *(Continued on page 46)*

By GEORGE CROSSETTE

HERE'S AN AUTHOR WHO SAYS THAT CARVING IS EASIER THAN CHECKERING, AND BETTER LOOKING TO BOOT!

Carving a Gunstock

"IF YOU MUST have carving on your gunstock," say many authorities, "do thus and so." Why excuses have to be made for this ancient and honorable profession, I do not know. Carvings exist that were made as long ago as 20,000 years before Christ. From the time that man first made tools, he has ornamented them. That ornamentation, nearly always, has been carved on their surfaces.

Carving lends distinction in many ways, principally because it is individual. No other example can exactly duplicate it. It reflects the personality of the carver. It is a perfectly valid form of art.

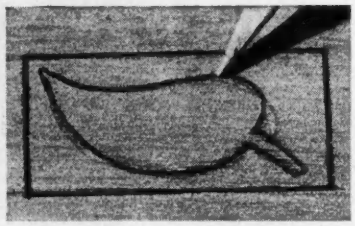
I would be the last to suggest that all or even many gunstocks in any collection be carved. However, one or two pieces with some carving tend to make any group of guns far more interesting. A rifle, like anything else, is appreciated far more if its owner has had something to do with its construction. A sporter, for instance, is considerably enhanced when the pistol grip or fore-end is carved.

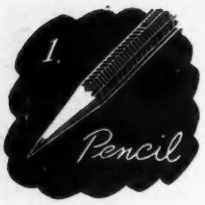
Frank Ferg of Merchantville, New Jersey, whose picture appears on the cover of this issue, is a fine craftsman who learned his trade from his father in Philadelphia, where many examples of his work may be found. He taught wood carving and drawing in the Philadelphia schools for over forty years. He is a professional woodcarver, and has done much to further the interest of adults as well as children in this field. While the beginner cannot hope to obtain the same perfection as this master-craftsman, quite satisfying results may be obtained by following the simple directions given in this article.

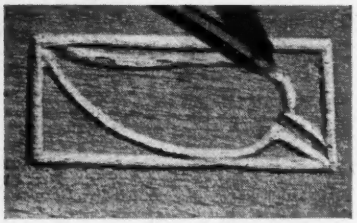
One interesting fact to remember is that the gunstock itself is a piece of carving. There are few straight lines in a stock which might be formed by the saw or plane alone. While it is true that stocks can be made on a machine, it is also a fact that these machines are carving implements in themselves. After their preliminary work is done much hand work remains.

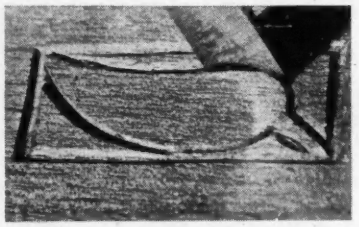
I have observed many military arms converted into sporters by amateurs who have left the pistol grip and the fore-end plain rather than undertake the job of checkering or carving. I hope this article may help some of them finish their project. Checkering, by the way, is a difficult job requiring special tools as well as a great deal of ability. One single slip may spoil a stock which has already received many hours of work. Carving, on the other hand, is far more rewarding to the amateur guncraftsman.

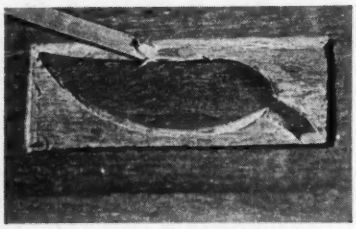
One of the greatest obstacles in carving is to obtain a good design. Few of us draw well enough to satisfy our own desires, but most of us have friends with this ability. Once the pattern is on the stock, I believe it possible for almost any workshop-minded gun enthusiast to carve the design in relief. Recently a number of inexpensive books have appeared in art-supply stores, containing simple drawings and designs which could be used in this type of carving. The designs may be copied by tracing and may be reduced or enlarged to fit the exact proportions of your stock by using the square method.

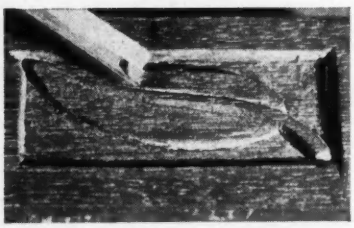


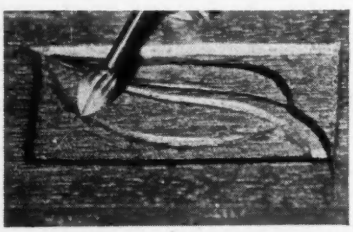


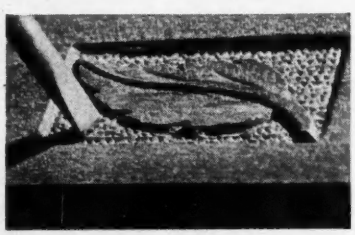












With eight or ten tools, such as those illustrated, it is possible to cut most simple designs. After some experience with these tools it is not necessary to suggest others, for the craftsman will soon recognize his problems and will be able to select additional tools to simplify his work on any particular type of carving. For a selection, the J. B. Addis & Sons catalog is an outstanding one to study. Their tools are of excellent quality.

On a new gunstock it may be wise to leave the areas to be carved slightly thicker, about 1/16 of an inch, than the balance of the finished surfaces. In the case of very light rifles this will permit deep relief without weakening the stock.

The pistol grip, fore-end, or other section to be carved may be covered with a piece of paper which can be cut to the exact outline of the area to be worked. This paper should then be placed on a flat surface where the design may be drawn. At this point, as suggested before, don't hesitate to call upon your artist friends for help. Poor design gives anything but pleasing results.

Once the design is on paper, again place the pattern on the stock over a piece of carbon or transfer paper. In the case of the pistol grip the carbon paper can be folded so that the carbon will be on the outside, both top and bottom. Then, while tracing the design on one side of the stock, an impression will also be left on the back of the original pattern which can then be used to place the design on the opposite side of the pistol grip. Doubling the transfer paper is, of course, unnecessary where a single pattern is to be used.

At this point let us turn to the small illustrations showing the six or seven steps necessary to complete a simple leaf design:

1) The design is first drawn on the stock in the manner already described. After tracing, strengthen the lines so you will have no trouble following them with the tools.

2) The outline, as well as the border (a rectangle in this case), may then be cut 3/16-inch deep with a veiner or parting tool. I much prefer the veiner, for it leaves a round cut, as illustrated, while the parting tool makes a V-shaped cut. The veiner is easier to handle, and makes a more suitable cut for the border of the carved areas. The rounded cut finishes better and is much less apt to splinter.

3) A curved tool to fit the design may next be used in a vertical position, as shown, to outline the leaf pattern. If tapped gently with a mallet it cuts a sharp edge, which permits us to correct or true-up the design already made with the veiner, because here we are relying on the curve of the tool and not on our eye alone. This tool serves the same purpose here as the French curve does in drafting.

4) The background may now be removed with any suitable tool. This bottoming operation should be carefully done as the background is to receive a stippling treatment later. If desired, the background may be sanded, though the carving itself should never be touched with sandpaper.

5) The shaping of the leaf may, of course, be done to individual taste. However, to help beginners, it is suggested that the center vein of the leaf be indicated by two cuts with a parting tool. Then a curved gouge may be used to shape each half of the leaf. In this type of carving it is well to leave the center of the design higher than the edges of the leaf, which are cut down to within a 64th of the bottom. Here again individual taste should dictate the pattern.

6) The shaping may also be accomplished with a hand grinder equipped with a large dental burr shaped approximately as you desire the leaf to be.

7) In this illustration the fine outer veins and serration on the leaf edges have been suggested. But remember—simplicity

is essential in good carving. Don't clutter the design with too much detail. The background may then be tooled as illustrated. The tool for stippling may be made from a common 4-inch nail. It would be helpful to have two; one with a single row of teeth for working in small areas, the other with a double row for use in larger background areas. These tools are made by grinding off the point of the nail and filing two edges in the manner a screwdriver is cut. Then the teeth may be made by filing across the flat surface with a three-cornered or knife-edged file. The filing should be continued until the teeth are sharp, as shown in the accompanying illustration. For the purpose of the illustration, course teeth were used. Finer stippling may be more desirable, especially when the harder woods are used.

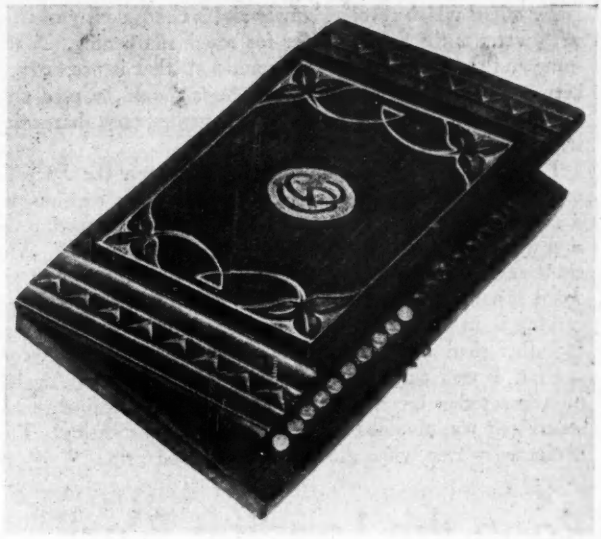
A light mallet should be used to tap the design into the background, using only enough force to leave the impressions of the teeth. Do not overlap the tool impressions too frequently, as this will crush the wood fibers and give a pulpy appearance.

Holding the tools properly is an art in itself. An ambidextrous person has many advantages, for the tools should always be held in both hands—one hand to push the tool, the other to steady the tool and stop it quickly when necessary. I have noted that carvers, even when working in a deep hollowed-out place, invariably find some method to steady their chisel.

The hand-type power tool which has become so popular in recent years may also be used to advantage in this type of work. Your dentist no doubt can supply you with a few large burrs such as that illustrated. They may be obtained in many shapes and sizes and are useful in cutting across the grain of the wood or in narrow places where it is difficult to reach with the ordinary carving tool.

A note of warning should be added as to the use of power tools. They turn at from 8,000 to 17,000 revolutions per minute, and if an unsteady hand allows one to get out of control the work is ready for the scrap heap! It is wise to place the work in a vise so that both hands are free to hold and steady the cutting tool. Small stands for holding the power tool are now on the market. These are useful if you prefer to hold the work in your hands.

Sharpening carving tools is a difficult task and few amateur craftsmen have either the patience or the time to do it properly. Again the amateur may need the help of an expert.



In addition to gunstocks, many items of shooting gear can be carved by the home-workshop fan. This is a cartridge block 'personalized' by the author

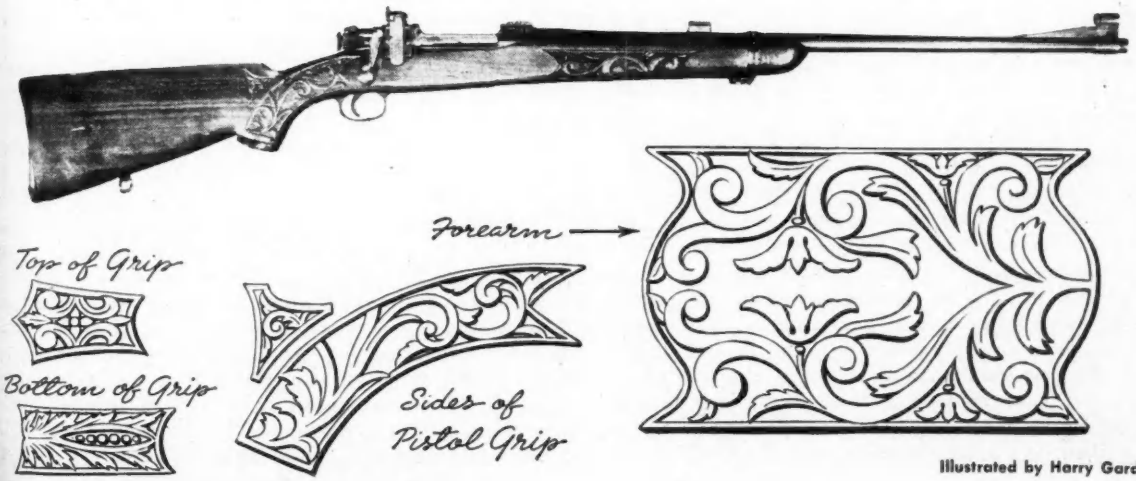
Frequently a half-hour of sharpening is needed on a tool which may be used for only thirty seconds. Needless to say, the tools must be as sharp as possible, for in gunstock work the grain of the wood runs in many directions, especially in the finer stock where burl or fiddle-back design is present.

Tools must be honed and stropped until they will cleanly cut the cross grain of the softest woods. Slip stones are made to fit the curve of most tools such as the veiners, parting tools, and gouges. Arkansas stones are generally considered best although they have become quite scarce in recent years.

To remove the feather edge of a tool keep a piece of leather, six or eight inches long and two inches wide, which has been treated first with tallow and then with flour of emery rubbed well into the surface. To accommodate small carving tools, one edge of the leather strip may be shaped and treated as above to facilitate stropping the inside edges.

Small carving tools should not be sharpened on high-speed grinders unless a water bath is kept on hand into which the tool may be frequently dipped. Little or no pressure should be used on these high-speed revolving wheels as fine tools

This is a standard Springfield .22-caliber rifle, ornamented with some simple carving. A close-up of the same rifle is shown on page 29



Illustrated by Harry Gardner

quickly overheat and lose their temper. The old fashioned water wheel which revolves slowly and is continuously covered with water is the finest grinder for rough sharpening. A flat stone and the leather hone is generally all that is necessary to keep a tool sharpened. Abrasive wheels should be used only to reshape old tools or to do rough preliminary sharpening when they are new.

I can't close without pointing out that even the *Encyclopedia Britannica* definition of carving needs some revision, for it says: "The process whereby wood is ornamented with a design by means of sharp cutting tools held in the hand." Machine carving is used extensively today and in the case of the word 'ornamented' I believe some expansion is necessary. Stock carving is, in fact, one of the few places where carving is used for other than an artistic purpose. At the recent NRA convention I was particularly interested to hear two Alaskan hunters say they much preferred a carved stock because a more secure grip was obtained than with the usual checkering. This is especially true when gloves hinder a good grip. ♦ ♦ ♦

Page the Loading Block

BLANKETY, BLANKETY, . . . just lookit there! What a mess! I bumped the table and knocked over all those cases ready for bullet seating. And all the time I spent weighing the powder charges so carefully! Now powder's spilled all over everything and the job has to be done again."

Similar remarks have come, at one time or another, from every reloader who, for reasons known only to himself, will charge cases without the aid of a loading board. By knocking over cases already charged or omitting a primer, he loses time, powder, and perhaps religion. What's worse, he occasionally gets two charges in one case. This can happen easily in pistol loads or in reduced rifle loads when using large cases in which the powder occupies only a part of the shell space. Double charges are unintentional, of course. Nevertheless, when one results, that 'souped-up' cartridge creates an attendant danger which might injure the gun or the shooter. This and other reloaders' headaches can be avoided by using a loading block when reloading, and during the priming and powder-charging operations. The cost of a loading block, if purchased, or the time and labor necessary to construct one eventually pay off.

Loading blocks are available from sellers of reloaders' supplies. But, since they are so easily made, they were never widely advertised. Should the reloader desire to make one and is somewhat at a loss as to how to proceed, perhaps some helpful suggestions would not be amiss. Most any sort of wood will do, but if possible select one of the hard, close-grained woods such as maple, beech, walnut. These woods work out best because holes will bore smoother and the likelihood of the board splitting about the time the last few holes are being bored will be considerably lessened. If one figures on constructing a block with a capacity for 100 cases, he should use a piece of wood which, after being squared up, and the sides and ends smoothed, will measure fourteen inches in length, seven and one-quarter inches in over-all width. The thickness is not important. But if you reload mostly short cases, such as .38 Special revolver cartridges, three-quarter-inch or seven-eighths-inch thickness will be sufficient. This thickness will also be suitable for most rifle cases. A block of this size will allow the installation of 100 holes of one-half-inch diameter, and have at least a three-quarter-inch margin around the outside edges. Regarding the proper size of the holes for different cartridges, seven-sixteenths inch will accommodate .22 Hornet, .25-20, .38 Specials; one-half inch will handle everything up to and including .30-'06, and other rimless shells. The .375 Magnum and some of the larger rimmed shells will require a nine-sixteenth-inch hole.

When ready to bore the holes, clamp the board on which the location of the holes have been prick-punched to a slightly larger board of scrap material. Then, when boring the holes, run the drill or bit through the top board and slightly into the scrap board. This will insure a clean-edged hole on the bottom side without the drill breaking through. After the boring has been completed, a thin piece of material (one-quarter-inch plywood will do nicely) large enough to trim even with the block should be nailed with small brads to the bottom. This will provide a smooth flooring for the cases. If some finish fancier than plain wood is desired, the block can be sanded, shellacked, and varnished. On the bottom side, in each corner at one end place a small round-head furniture nail. On the opposite end, midway between the corners, place one nail to insure your block sitting steady.

When using the block for reloading, place the cases in the block before priming, heads down. After a case is primed, it should be returned to the block, heads up. When all cases are primed and in the heads-up position (a glance will show you if a primer has been muffed), proceed with the powder charging, returning the cases to the block heads down. Any heads up will indicate you failed to charge them.—A. M. SCHNETZLER. ♦ ♦ ♦

Report from the DCM

Continued progress is being made in processing the 80,000 orders received from NRA members during October 1948 when rifle sales were reopened for a 30-day period. The DCM has processed the first wave of some 21,000 purchase requests received October 4. Approximately 60,000 orders received during the period October 5 to 31 remain to be handled as time and the availability of rifles permits.

As previously announced, each order must be checked against the master file of previous rifle purchasers before an approved order is typed and sent to an Ordnance Shipping Depot. This procedure insures distribution of the rifles to eligible purchasers only.

The office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship acts as a 'clearing house' in the handling of purchase requests from NRA members. Processing of an order by the DCM means that an approved requisition to purchase has been sent to one of the Ordnance shipping depots. The depot notifies the member concerned when shipment is ready to go forward, requesting payment by money order or certified check. The member then remits to the arsenal and shipment is made, thus completing the transaction. Of course, the Ordnance arsenals handle these individual orders along with their other work and at times, because of higher priorities, DCM shipments are necessarily delayed.

Because of this complex but necessary procedure for handling NRA members' purchase requests, coupled with the large backlog of orders on hand, it will be readily understood why the DCM asks that members refrain from writing, so that all available personnel can work on the important processing job. Members may rest assured that the present backlog of orders will be processed and shipped as speedily as is possible, after which, if additional rifles can be made available, sales will again be reopened for the benefit of NRA members who have not previously purchased a rifle from the DCM. ♦ ♦ ♦

Modernizing the '94 Winchester

WORN, BATTERED, OR RUSTED VERSIONS OF THE GUN WHICH HAS BEEN USED TO KILL BOTH GRIZZLIES AND SKUNKS CAN EASILY BE PUT IN RELIABLE CONDITION . . . SAYS GUNSMITH HAROLD E. MACFARLAND

LEST SOMEONE accuse me of being a conservative reactionary or a tobacco-chewing old timer with a hankering for the 'thutty-thutty' days (which might be accurate), I want to say that I usually tote a modern bolt gun with the latest in hunting scopes when rambling in the woods. Such an outfit offers real sport. It is gratifying to me, as well as amazing to my less fortunate neighbors, when I can make a spectacular long-range shot.

Once in a while though, when the larder is empty and the wolves of hunger are yapping close to the door, I get blood in my eye and go out for meat. Then, I reach for the old .30-30 carbine. I know it's obsolete and no good and the shell is a has-been. It was that way twenty-five years ago. The experts who hunt with their feet on an office desk were plowing it under when I learned to read. The .30-30 will scatter all over a couple of inches at fifty yards, I realize, and trajectory and sight setting can't be figured beyond a hundred and fifty yards. The action is weak and springy, with the locking lugs on the back of the bolt. But, for some reason, deer die just as dead whether they are hit in the center or on the edge of the heart with it; too, most deer in timber country are killed within fifty yards.

The point that interests me is the speed of handling of the little carbine. By the time a deer makes two jumps, I can perforate his hide with it. It takes a little more time for me to get the modern bolt creation lined on him. And in the brushy country of Minnesota, where I live, if a deer makes three jumps, he is behind a balsam playing hide and seek.

Weak and springy though the .30-30 is, the action never seems to blow up. Some I've seen with the .30-30 barrel worn out, then the chamber reamed a little with a round file or a drill bit until a .32 Special cartridge could be crowded in. They shot right well for a while. Of course pressures were terrific in the tight barrel and the locking bolt gradually set back until there was plenty of headspace, but nothing blew. I don't suggest the .30-30 be rechambered so, but it is done.

Why .30-30 and not .32 Special? A .32 Special is a transition caliber as I see it, a makeshift, something for which there is no logical excuse now. At the beginning of the smokeless powder era, the old .32-40 with its straight shell wouldn't burn smokeless powder efficiently. So, someone reamed out the .32-40 chamber a little to bottleneck it and, presto, they had a smokeless powder gun. The old black powder 16-inch twist is still in the barrel. Contrary to popular belief, the increase in killing power of the .32 Special over .30-30 is infinitesimal, nor does the gun have a good barrel. The old .30-30 can be shot at game as long as anything resembling rifling can be seen in it, but get a little wear or a few pits in the .32 Special and it will shoot all over grandpappy's barn.

The problem is to obtain a .30-30 carbine these days. If the hardware dealer is handed $24.00 and told to get one, he will ask for sixty dollars and say to wait until somebody gets one made. But there is an answer. Look in the attic or in a neighbor's garage, behind the junk car parts, and you are apt to find something that looks like a .30-30, only it might be about a yard and half long and say .38-55 on the side. Of course, it could be an old long .30-30, a .25-35, a .32-40, or a .32 Special. It makes no difference just so long as it is a solid frame 1894 Winchester. All you have to do is make a few simple changes in it.

The '94 is a classic example of a gun that was designed right and then left alone. Some companies produce little but headaches for the poor gunsmith—trifling changes are made in models every year or so. Then when the gun is about ten years old, he writes to them for some parts. Nine times out of ten, they send in answer a printed form, which they seem to have in endless profusion, which says, "So sorry. This model obsolete. We can no longer furnish parts." It's a different story with the old '94. Parts are interchangeable between the 1894, the 55, and the late snappy creation, the Model 64. There have been a number of minor changes and improvements, but always in such a way that new parts could be substituted for old without a lot of filing and fitting. I'm not saying that the new Model 64 is the same as the old '94—it isn't by a long shot. The Model 64 is streamlined and modernized, and has modern heat-treated steel in it. But just the same, Model 64 parts fit the '94.

To get down to cases: we have one of the old long guns and

The action of the Winchester '94 and subsequent models is one of extreme simplicity, reliable, and fast and easy to operate. Upon dropping the lever, the 'link' drops down, allowing the cartridge to be moved back onto the carrier by the magazine spring. The last lever motion on loading moves the carrier up, placing the cartridge immediately in front of the breech bolt

we want to modernize it. First, send to Winchester for a .30 caliber WCF barrel, 20 inch, Model 64, and a number 22K rear sight with 3C elevator. Specify U-notch, otherwise they are apt to send the V-style which doesn't work so well with a front bead. A number 57 Marble's front sight is the right height to work with the 22K rear. A new wooden fore-end and a fore-end tip can be ordered and the new wood will close some unsightly cracks between the barrel and

the wood fore-end, but it will make no difference in the shooting.

Some grief can be saved by ordering a pair of .30 WCF cartridge guides at the same time. Be sure to get the screws with them because the old ones will undoubtedly be spoiled in taking them out. On some old '94's the cartridge guides have a universal shape, feeding various calibers with equal facility. On others, they will feed only the cartridge meant for the gun. Any of them can be worked out with a file to make them work but it takes a little practice. The .25-35 and .32-40 guides can be widened for the bottleneck cartridge with a flat file. When converting from .38-55, it is quite often necessary to use an 8-inch round file on the portion of the guide the cartridge rim feeds through. The groove must be deepened slightly and angled forward at the top, necessary because of the angle at which the cartridge rides the carrier. If a short magazine like that of the Model 64 is desired, a new magazine plug should be obtained, but the magazine can be used full 20-inch length with the old plug.

Four Winchester rifle models, produced over a half-century, are variations of the model '94 rifle (at top), which was made in calibers .32-40, .38-55, .30-30, .25-35, and .32 Special. The parts of the 94 are interchangeable with parts of the other three guns shown here, the model 94 carbine (second from top), model 55 (second from bottom), and model 64 (bottom). The model 64 is still being produced in three calibers, .30-30, .25-35, and .32 Special

To tear down the old gun, remove the magazine plug screw, punch out the magazine ring pin, and draw out the magazine tube. Take out forearm-tip screws, remove forearm tip and forearm. Then knock out forearm-tip tenon, punching from left to right. The old barrel can then be gripped in the vise because it isn't any good anyway. Pad the jaws of a large monkey wrench with copper and grip the receiver as far forward as possible. If the wrench is placed in the middle of the receiver, the receiver might be sprung. Open the finger lever and reef on the wrench. The barrel has a right-hand thread and usually can be turned out quite easily. If the finger lever isn't opened, it is just too bad. The extractor will get twisted awry and the breech bolt will go where good things don't go. Once in a while, the barrel is in quite solid and it is necessary to heat the receiver ring slightly. In extreme cases it is necessary to tap the ring with a hammer, being careful not to mar it since it is quite soft. The magazine ring is still on the old barrel but the ends of it are cut on a radius, so stick one end of the magazine tube in and swing radially. The magazine ring will fall right out.

Clean and oil the threads on the new barrel and it is ready to screw into place. This time, it is necessary to grip it without marring it. I use a clamp made of two iron plates measuring 4 x 7 x ¾ inches. Drill a 1-inch hole in each corner of one plate and corresponding 1⅛-inch holes in the other plate. Place 1 x 5-inch cap screws in the 1-inch holes and weld the heads in place. Groove a pair of 1-inch hardwood blocks to fit the barrel just forward of the threads. Sprinkle powdered rosin in the grooves, place the barrel in the grooves and between the plates, and screw the nuts as tight as you can get them. If the rosined blocks ever slip on the barrel, the blueing will come off.

The clamp can be gripped in the vise and the barrel screwed into place just as the old one was removed. Use the extractor cut for an index mark to align it. The barrels are standardized and held to close tolerances and can usually be fitted to within proper headspace limits. Headspace trouble is not as serious with a rimmed cartridge and the breech pressure is low with the .30-30 anyway. If there is excessive clearance between the breechblock and the cartridge, it can only mean that the breechblock or the locking bolt is worn and must be replaced. There is no other way to take up .30-30 actions. The barrel could be seated one thread deeper but doing so would set the breechblock back and prevent it from aligning with the take-apart hole in the side of the receiver. Thus, the action couldn't be taken down for repairs without first removing the barrel. If the magazine is to be full length, cut exactly six inches from the receiver end of it. Cut ⅛ inch from the tip of the magazine plug screw since it can't be screwed into the new barrel. Pass a drill through the pin hole in the magazine ring, making sure that the magazine tube is as far back as it will go. This will cut a groove in the tube so that the pin will hold it in place. Assemble everything as before.

The old cartridge guides may feed all right but if they jam the cartridges, replace them or file them out. Removing the guides is a little tricky. Right-angle screwdrivers can be made from small Allen safety set-screw wrenches to get at the screws. However, the left guide screw can be got at by removing the loading port spring cover. Then, using a long skinny screwdriver to go through the left screw hole, get at the right one. In replacing the guides, make sure they and their receiver grooves are clean and the guides pulled up tightly or the gun will jam.

Everything is now ready to try out the gun. The shooter who must shoot minute-of-angle groups, and speed up his bullets so fast they melt the lead cores and disintegrate all over the landscape before they get to the target, won't find much appeal in this outfit. But if he is a run-of-the-mill meat-hunter like most of us, he'll have a nice little gun.

BEGINNER'S LUCK

BY ARTHUR COOK

CONCLUSION: THE STANDING POSITION

OF THE four generally-accepted shooting positions, standing is universally considered the most difficult. As in the case of kneeling, however, an analytical approach—plus plenty of perseverance—will overcome its apparent difficulties. If you want to build up your standing scores, use a direct method. Find out *why* your scores are not up to par.

Perhaps the greatest misconception of the offhand position is that the rifle must remain motionless before the shot is fired. There may be certain exceptions, but I have never known anyone who could hold perfectly still. I have never been able to do it prone, much less in the standing position. In prone shooting you note the oscillation of the barrel and get the shot off while the oscillation is uniform. The same principle applies to offhand but the oscillations are of greater magnitude. The farther from the ground you get, the less support you receive. Consequently your rifle barrel waves around like a ping-pong ball on a jet of water. The degree of motion depends entirely upon your position and other *human* factors. You may have a good position, but due to sickness, lack of sleep, over-exercise, nervousness, or other unforeseen circumstances you may bobble around like a ship in a storm. These difficulties can be overcome by the individual. They are all personal errors.

In any event, make up your mind that the rifle is going to wobble around on the bullseye when you're shooting in the standing position. Then try to *control* that movement so that it is fairly uniform. At first the movement will be large but gradually it will steady to a minimum point. This low oscillation point is the best time to get the shot off.

Trigger control goes hand in hand with 'wobble control'. The combination or coordination of the two is the secret of the offhand position.

The trigger may be squeezed or pressed in either of two ways, depending upon the preference of the shooter. You may adopt a fast squeeze or a slow squeeze. The important thing is to stick to one and develop it. Trigger control is just like any other factor in that it must be developed through patient practice.

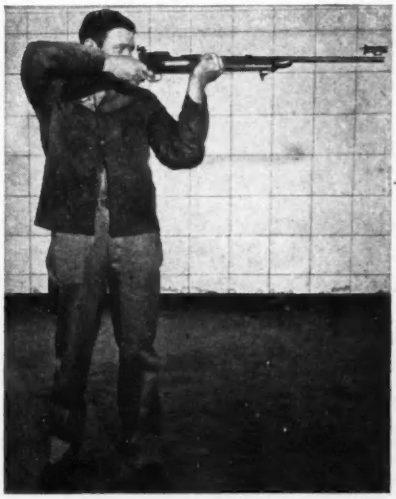
If you are sure of your hold and are reasonably steady, you may want to take your time and apply pressure slowly until the rifle fires. If you are applying a gradual pressure on the trigger while the sights are aligned, and suddenly the sights move away from the bull, then hold the trigger pressure and apply a little more when the sights are back in alignment. This is classified as a slow, steady squeeze and is very efficient when you can manage it.

Personally, I prefer the faster squeeze. With it there is not as much chance of getting off an accidental shot. I'm not steady enough to rest on the bullseye for any long period of time so I have to get the shot off as fast as I can. I've found, as in the kneeling position, that by applying pressure with just the tip of my trigger finger, I can get the shot away quicker. One logical reason for finger-tip control is that the tip is much more sensitive than any other part of the finger and as a result is quicker to act on an impulse from the eye. But if you find that you can do better by pressing with the first or second joint of the trigger finger, then do so. Above all, try to be consistent. Squeeze the trigger

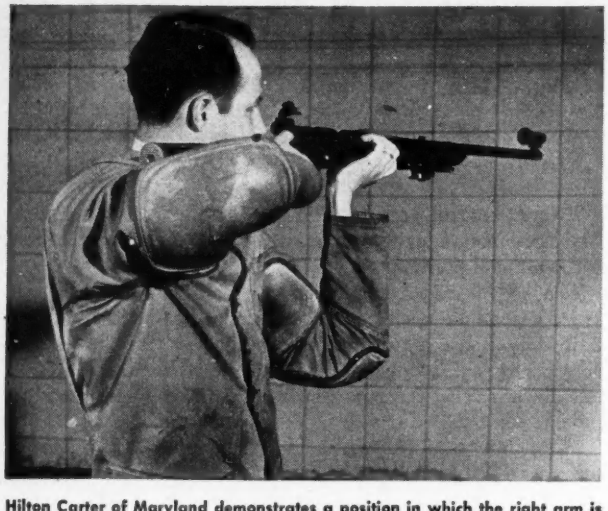
THE LAST OF THREE TIMELY ARTICLES ON POSITION SHOOTING BY THE 20-YEAR-OLD NATIONAL AND OLYMPIC SMALL-BORE CHAMPION

The Cookie' demonstrates one version of the hip-rest position. Note the high right arm and grip of right hand on stock. Left leg supports weight

Don Bailey of Maryland U. uses this position. His weight is divided equally between right and left feet, and both of his arms help support the rifle

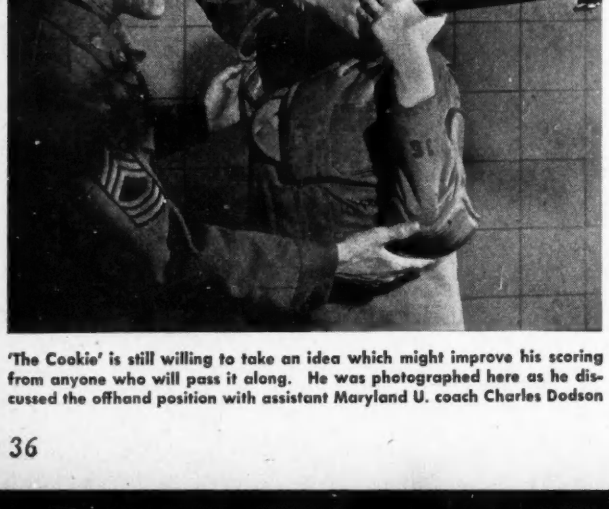


M/Sgt. Faye Morris, assistant coach of the Maryland team, demonstrates the conventional Army position. The left arm must be away from body



Hilton Carter of Maryland demonstrates a position in which the right arm is held straight out, parallel to the floor, and left arm perpendicular to rifle

Another Maryland shooter, Bruce MacRae, shows position which emphasizes high right arm and fingertip control of the trigger. Note position of left hand



'The Cookie' is still willing to take an idea which might improve his scoring from anyone who will pass it along. He was photographed here as he discussed the offhand position with assistant Maryland U. coach Charles Dodson

the same way every time. And try all possible combinations. Then settle on the one that gives you the best results.

The standing position falls into one of two classes: The hip-rest or NRA position and the Army or free-arm position. The chief difference in these is the position of the left arm. In the hip-rest or body-rest position the left arm is allowed to rest against the body. In the Army position the left arm must be clear of the body.

The hip-rest position is used widely in the US and almost exclusively in Europe for match shooting. In this position the weight of the rifle is supported almost entirely by the left hand and arm. The body must be relaxed. The weight can be distributed in one of two ways; either resting equally on both feet, or resting on the left leg with the right leg slightly bent and relaxed. This detail may seem unimportant but you can't be steady unless you are standing properly.

If you choose to use the bent right leg position then you will probably get best results by throwing your left hip forward. The left hip in this position acts as a lock for the left leg and directs the body weight perpendicular to the floor along the left leg. The right leg then merely balances the body.

As an alternative, place your body weight equally on both feet, either spreading your feet wide apart or keeping them close together. This gives a more even distribution of body weight and you may find it more comfortable. The main drawback to this position is the lack of resting surface for your left arm. You then have contact only between your arm and your side down about three or four inches from the left armpit, whereas you get full resting surface down to the elbow in the 'hip-out-of-joint' position.

After you have your legs placed, grasp the rifle with the right hand at the small of the stock and pull the butt into the right shoulder. The right hand and arm may be either relaxed or drawn tight, depending upon personal preference. One way is to let the right arm relax so that the rifle rests upon the left hand and arm. The other way is also very practical and consists of drawing back with the right arm very hard, thus clamping the butt tightly into the shoulder and at the some time taking some of the weight off of the left arm. This pulling motion may be acquired by drawing the rifle straight back toward the shoulder with the right arm low, horizontal, or high. This is where you distribute the weight of the rifle between the right and left arms. I prefer the high-arm position as it gives more leverage and does not impose as much muscular strain on the shooter. By pulling the rifle back by force you are exerting muscular tension and that seems to contradict the theory of relaxation. This is true in a sense but I believe that when using a fully relaxed position you do not have complete control over the rifle. There seems to be more 'wobble' in the hip-out-of-joint position than when pulling the rifle into the shoulder with the right arm.

When using the relaxed right-arm position the weight of the rifle is supported almost entirely by the left hand and arm, while if you pull back with the right arm the weight can be distributed between the two arms and hands, the ratio depending upon the pulling tension of the right arm. If the right elbow is kept high in the air while pulling to the rear then the arm acts as a truss and gives added support to the rifle.

The position of the butt varies from position to position and once again depends upon individual build as well as personal taste. In some cases the heel of the butt will rest

in the shoulder hollow while in others the rifle will be so high that only the toe of the butt will rest in the shoulder.

One of the most important points of the hip-rest position is how you support the rifle with your left hand. The way most generally taught is to rest the trigger guard on the left thumb, with the stock just in front of the trigger guard resting on the fingers. This position raises the rifle enough for comfort, so that the sights rest naturally on the bullseye. The left elbow rests in the hip. Another left-hand position that is very efficient is what I call the cradle position. In this variation the stock is held between the thumb and fingers of the left hand just in front of the trigger guard. I prefer still another type in which the left hand rests in front of the trigger guard, with the left thumb falling against the left side of the stock and the little finger falling against the right side of the stock. The other fingers are extended along the bottom of the stock. I find that this position gives me a more solid foundation than the fingertip position. Take note of the fact that the fingers will 'give' in the fingertip position and cause a slight bounce.

A still more extreme position is just the reverse of the first mentioned in that you hold the rifle in the palm of the left hand with the fingers and thumb falling around the left side of the stock.

The military position is different from the NRA or hip-rest position and requires more consideration. The only difference, as far as the rules go, is that the left arm is not allowed to touch the left side. This position also falls into two classes, which classes differ in the weight distribution of the rifle. The rifle may be supported almost entirely by the left arm or almost entirely by the right. A combination of the extremes distributes an equal weight to both arms. I prefer, as in the hip-rest, to support the rifle mostly by my right arm and use my left arm to steady it. This is desirable as there is more muscular strain on the left arm in the Army position, since it is not supported by the left side. However, unless you keep your right arm high you may find that the Army position requires too much muscular strain to acquire the necessary steadiness.

As in the case of the hip-rest position, the placing of the feet plays an important role. Some people prefer to spread their legs wide apart while others keep their feet relatively close together. I find it best when my feet are about six or eight inches apart and at about a ninety-degree angle to the target. I recommend that you try shooting with your feet at various distances and various angles until you find the one that is the most comfortable. When you find a good steady position memorize the placing of your legs and feet and practice getting back into the same position.

The Army position requires more muscular effort than the hip-rest position and as a result a person can't hold as steadily, or for as long a time in the hip-rest position. For this reason you must be able to get the shot off fast while your sights are on the bull. This is accomplished hand-in-hand with cadence. When a good cadence is developed the position becomes almost mechanical and your scores will build up along with your confidence. If you ever have a feeling that something is wrong while you're trying to get a shot off, sit down and start over again.

Believe it or not, the position of the head on the stock can make an enormous difference in accuracy. The cheek should rest naturally on the stock in such a position as not to strain the neck. This gives the necessary comfort. You will probably notice that if you shoot offhand with the same length of stock that you use prone, your eye will be farther from the sight. You can't crawl up in the stock in the standing position as you can in prone, so you will either have to get used to the greater eye distance or cut off the stock.

Another hint: Many times extra steadiness can be acquired by clamping the head down hard on the stock, thus helping to lock the butt to the shoulder.

There are a few fine points to the offhand position which may add extra comfort and steadiness as well as extra points. The use of a chair is one of these points. If you tend to tire during a string, sit down after firing each shot. If you elect to sit down, be sure to place the chair immediately behind you, so you do not have to change the position of your feet from shot to shot.

It is always a good idea to shoot a few dry rounds before starting on your record target. You may argue that it takes precious time to shoot dry rounds but that time can always be very valuable in points gained. It serves as a position check, so that position faults can easily be picked up. Sometimes you will find your position and need only one dry shot for a check. You may then believe that was one good shot wasted. That's true, but you'll get more good shots in the long run if you know your position is right before firing for record. This gives you the necessary confidence in your position. By the same reasoning, when you switch from one bull to another you have to check your position and realign your-

In this close-up of Tom Moncure of George Washington, who won the Intercollegiate rifle title last year, note position of arms, hands, butt of rifle

self for every shot. If for any reason you are shooting offhand and find that something doesn't feel right, open the bolt, take out the cartridge, and shoot a couple of dry rounds until you regain your position.

Standing is by far the most taxing of all the positions as far as muscles are conserned, and requires good breath control. Try to relax and take a few deep breaths before each shot is fired. Heavy breathing sometimes helps to relieve some of the nervous tension that plagues the shooter.

To properly align your sights you must have the rifle butt on your shoulder correctly. I invariably find that I have

to change my right arm by moving the elbow from the horizontal to a higher position. This rotational action locks the rifle at different tensions into the shoulder. To place the butt correctly into the shoulder hollow for the extreme high-arm position place the butt to the shoulder so that it is twisted at about a 45-degree angle to the left, while the right arm extends out parallel to the floor. Then, by raising the right elbow, roll the butt into the shoulder hollow until it reaches a vertical position. Different positions of the right arm may be obtained by varying the angle of the butt a few degrees one way or another from the vertical. This system is used mostly for the high-arm military position but can be adapted to a lower arm level by starting the right arm roll lower than the normal horizontal position. This is also very handy for hip-rest. After the roll is completed, apply a hard pull straight back with the right hand and arm.

There are a lot of people who can't place the butt properly in the shoulder hollow and who may get just as good results by allowing the butt to rest farther out on the shoulder, nearer the right arm.

After the shot is fired try to follow-through by keeping the rifle to the shoulder and noting where the sights are. This is one of the basic factors in prone shooting and is especially applicable to the offhand position. Shooters realize this fact but as a rule never give it enough thought. No matter how elementary it sounds, your scores will improve if you practice a good follow-through.

There are always a few extras which may help you up the ladder to better scores. Among these are a cheekpiece on your stock, and a loading block attached to the side of the rifle or action. A cheekpiece is an asset if it fits properly, and a liability if it is a misfit. The cheekpiece gives its greatest advantage in the hip-rest position. The loading block is a useful attachment. With it you don't have to bend down and get out of position to reload.

Many people prefer to use the sling when shooting standing. I find that when a sling is used it takes more muscular effort for a steady hold. The hasty sling requires considerable effort to hold as you have to pull hard so that the sling pulls across the chest. This seems to me to be using unnecessary muscular effort to acquire a steady position. There are quite a few people, however, who use this position to good advantage.

Practice is perhaps the most important phase of any position. It applies particularly to offhand shooting. The most important thing in practicing is not just shooting to burn up ammunition, but shooting and analyzing your shooting. Every time you practice something new, try combining other new variations also. You may find that one position change will not suit you whereas if you combine it with another change you may find just what you've been looking for. Another aid is to try to practice under a little pressure. Shoot a match with a friend who scores about the same as you do. This will help develop your match shooting confidence, and accustom your nerves gradually to match pressure. It also gives eacch shooter a chance to spot any weak points in the other's position.

Many shooters say that they don't feel any pressure in matches. I believe that no matter how good a score is there is always a little pressure. The important thing to remember about pressure is not to let it get the best of you. To overcome pressure or subdue it is just a question of overcoming your own nerves. A person who doesn't feel much pressure has learned to control his nerves.

After you have experimented enough to find a good standing position, remember the location of your hands, feet, and shoulders. Analyze these points so that you can get back into the same position at will. When you have found your position, *stick to it* and practice. I think you will agree, after you have explored the secrets of the standing position, that it can be more fun than a barrel of monkeys.

SWITZERLAND

(Continued from page 12)

Swiss government attaches to training its youth, note that the subsidy for *jeune tireurs* (young shooters) is $1.17 for each youth instructed according to the prescribed federal shooting program.

Ammunition may be considered as another form of subsidy. All ammunition for the required firing is free; the optional is sometimes free. For other types of shooting—inside the club, matches with other clubs, fetes or celebrations—cartridges are furnished at anywhere from half price to almost full price. Cost to the government of a single rifle cartridge is approximately six cents; for pistol cartridges about three cents. Usage of ammunition for any purpose is closely controlled; waste is not permitted.

In keeping with the Swiss plan of repeated small doses of military training over a long period of time, and keeping its forces every ready for immediate defense, those serving in the militia are divided into three groups. First are the elite (first line) troops, aged 20 to 32 years; second are the landwehr or active reserve, aged 33 to 40 inclusive; and third are the landsturm or inactive reserve, aged 41 to 48 inclusive.

Thus according to age level the training is as follows: premilitary, voluntary rifle instruction usually six or seven days; recruit at the age of 20: 60 to 90 days active army training including rifle instruction. From 21 to 32: sergeants take 11 to 14 days annual training; corporals and below take 7 to 8 days annual training.

In the landwehr (33 to 40) the rifleman must do eleven days militia training in four years, plus making the minimum score in the yearly required shooting; while for the landsturm (41 to 48) all participation in the militia is voluntary.

Since all the required shooting must be done as a member of a local society or club, the twenty-year-old Swiss early becomes a "clubman." He is, however, permitted to join any society he wishes and because even small towns may have several local clubs he often has some choice. A group may also form itself into a society.

Strangely enough, no prizes are awarded in the required shooting, but young shooters are encouraged through the award of a certificate of good marksmanship. Despite this lack of awards, nearly 500,000 men go through the annual firing while only 280,000 are required to do so. Such a Spartan attitude on the part of the government means little if a shooter really wants recognition of his ability, because the societies provide plenty of opportunity to win medals, placques, cups, jewelry, and money. However, the Swiss are not 'award-minded.' Their Army has no decorations, and Swiss military men are even forbidden to accept foreign decorations!

In a concluding article, to be published next month, the author will cover Swiss weapons in detail, describe Swiss methods of training, and complete his factual survey with a discussion of civilian and sport shooting in the land of the Alps.—Ed.

EARLY CARTRIDGE ARMS

BY HERSCHEL C. LOGAN . . . THE SUCCESS OF SMITH & WESSON'S FIRST CARTRIDGE REVOLVER WAS ASSURED BY THE APPEARANCE OF DOZENS OF INFRINGEMENTS, EVASIONS, AND IMITATIONS PRODUCED BY COMPETITORS

WHEN Smith & Wesson purchased the patent rights for "chambers right through the cylinder" from Rollin White in the fall of 1856, they perhaps unknowingly bought a virtual monopoly in hand arms so far as metallic cartridges were concerned.

It seems that many manufacturers of arms of that time were looking forward to the day (February 25, 1857) when a patent owned by Samuel Colt would expire. This patent of Colt's contained a number of vital points necessary to revolver construction. A mechanically-revolved cylinder and a method of locking the cylinder at the time of firing to secure the proper alignment of chamber and barrel were but two of the important features. So thorough and all-inclusive was Colt's patent that few revolvers could be produced that in some manner did not infringe upon his claims. Rival manufacturers felt that with this patent obstruction out of the way the revolver field would be wide open.

Hardly had Smith & Wesson's small rim-fire cartridge revolver made its appearance (RIFLEMAN, June 1948) when other firms proceeded to tool up for revolvers using the same rim-fire cartridge. How their legal staffs failed to realize that this new principle of a cylinder bored through from end to end might be patented, or why they did not first check with the patent office, is still one of the great mysteries.

Smith & Wesson, facing stiff competition, lost no time in getting their attorneys into action. The mere writing of persuasive letters accomplished results with some manufacturers, who were quick to see that their arms were infringements under the Rollin White patent, to which patent Smith & Wesson held the rights by virtue of purchase. These firms ceased production at once. Other manufacturers chose to take the fight to court, only to have the court rule that they had encroached upon the White patent. The court further ruled in these cases that all unsold revolvers owned by the defendants, or any made subsequently, must be turned over to the plaintiff. These are the arms which are found today with the wording "Made for Smith & Wesson by . . ." or "Manuf'd for Smith & Wesson . . ." in addition to the manufacturer's name and patent dates. From 1863, the year of Smith & Wesson's legal action, until the expiration of their patent in 1869, Smith & Wesson held undisputed leadership in the manufacture of metallic-cartridge arms.

This article will concern itself chiefly with revolvers of American manufacture. However, it should be mentioned here that some European manufacturers were by no means asleep. Many imitations of the early Smith & Wessons will be encountered bearing foreign proofmarks. They are of interest but add little, if anything, to the story of early American cartridge arms.

The study of these early cartridge arms, which are so closely related to the story of the first Smith & Wesson revolvers, falls logically into three divisions. First are those which must be considered infringements due to court action, or because due to their period of manufacture they must of necessity be classed as infringements, whether or not Smith & Wesson brought action against them. The second group are products of those ingenious firms which sought to circumvent the White patent by various methods of loading. Most of these arms used a different type of cartridge. Third and last are those whose manufacturers sought only to imitate rather than to create. Taken as a whole, these three groups form a most worthwhile study to the collector who is interested in the early development of American metallic-cartridge revolvers. Most of the arms are within the reach of the average collector, mainly we suspect, because so few in the past have specialized in that field, or have realized the important place they hold in cartridge arms history.

Infringements

Since the White patent did not expire until 1869, any metallic-cartridge revolver with the chambers of the cylinder bored through from end to end, manufactured before this date (other than Smith & Wesson) was clearly an infringement. Due perhaps to the fact that they did not offer any serious threat of competition, the firms making rimfire 'pepperbox' revolvers were allowed to continue their manufacture, even though many of them did employ a revolving cylinder bored through from end to end. Neither does there appear to have

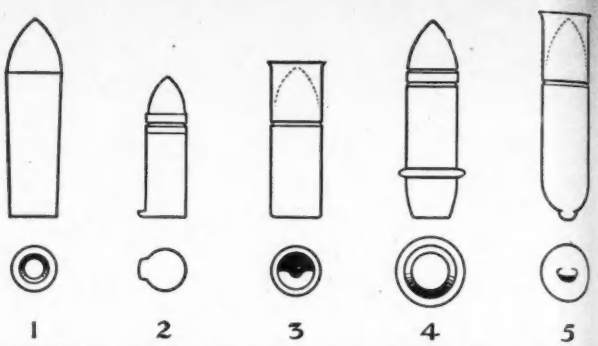
IMITATIONS: These three revolvers are lock-stock-and-barrel copies of the early S&W's. 1) American Standard Tool, .22-caliber, seven shots; 2) Cummings, .22-caliber, seven shot; and 3) Marlin .30-caliber, five shot

been any notice taken of the many single-shot rim-fire pistols produced during this period.

While the early Smith & Wesson "tip-up" revolvers were produced only in .22 and .32 calibers, some of the infringements were produced in other rim-fire calibers as well. Since there is a question as to who first started producing infringements, the various revolvers will be discussed in alphabetical order. No doubt others will be encountered, but it is believed that the majority of the better-known ones are included in the following group. The writer has not gone into a detailed description of the various arms listed. Minor variations will be found in these, the same as in other types of arms. Many of them will be found with different barrel lengths. Just enough description has been given, it is hoped, to help identify the arms and place them in their proper classification.

Allen & Wheelock, Worcester, Massachusetts, (also Ethan Allen & Co.): Revolver produced under Allen's patents of Sept. 7, Nov. 9, 1858, and July 3, 1860. Readily distinguished by its side hammer. Four calibers are known to have been produced, .22, .32, .38, and .44.

Bacon Arms Co., Norwich, Connecticut: This .22 revolver is virtually a miniature reproduction of Bacon's large .38-caliber rim-fire Navy revolver. The cylinder pin on the larger arm is much longer and was used as an extractor. A .30-caliber revolver with birdshead grips, and a .32-caliber revolver (C. W. Hopkin's patent, 35,41½, May 27, 1862) were also manufactured.



EVASIONS: These peculiar cartridges were all developed in order to get around S&W patent on "chambers bored all the way through the cylinder

F. D. Bliss, New Haven, Connecticut: Produced only in .25 caliber. Has a removable plate on the rear of the cylinder. Holes in the plate permit the long nose of the firing pin to hit the rim of the cartridge.

Albert Christ, California, Ohio: Patented Sept. 11, 1866 (57,864). This 18-shot, .32-caliber rim-fire revolver is by far the rarest of any of the Smith & Wesson infringements. Has two barrels, one above the other; cylinder has two sets of chambers, an outer row of 12 and an inner row of 6. Outer row lines up with top barrel, inner row with lower. Few specimens of this unique arm are believed to be in existence.

T. Copeland, Worcester, Massachusetts: Known to have produced a .22-caliber revolver in Worcester around 1860. Solid-frame type with birdshead grips.

W. L. Grant: Produced a .32-caliber revolver with loading gate and extractor rod. The .22-caliber Grant had neither of these two features. The cylinder had to be removed for loading and removing the cartridges. Identical arms to both of these will be found marked, "J. P. Lower" or "D. D. Cone." The latter is thought to be the inventor.

Gross Arms Co., Tiffin, Ohio: The rear end of the cylinder of this .30-caliber revolver has a removable plate very similar to that found on the Bliss. On Dec. 3, 1861, Henry Gross of Tiffin, Ohio, secured a patent (33,836) for this unusual arm.

Lowell Arms Co., Lowell, Massachusetts: Twenty-two and .32 calibers. The .22 is found with or without extractor rod. A loading gate is attached to the right side of the frame. These features were patented by Reuben W. Drew of Lowell, Massachusetts, on April 2, 1867 (63,450). Except for its solid brass frame the .32-caliber arm resembles the first model Smith & Wesson .32-caliber revolver. Lowell Arms was the successor to Rollin White. After the court's decision the firm was required to turn over 8,682 revolvers to Smith & Wesson. Both caliber arms may be found carrying the wording "Made for Smith & Wesson by . . . "

Manhattan Firearms Manufacturing Co., New York: This arm is believed to have been produced under a patent (26,641) secured by Joseph Gruler and Augustus Rebertey of Norwich, Conn., on Dec. 27, 1859, and assigned to the Manhattan Firearms Mfg. Co. The oval iron-frame, .22-caliber revolver made by this firm is the closest imitation of the first model Smith & Wesson .22-caliber revolver known.

Moore's Patent Firearms Co., New York: A seven-shot revolver. When the catch to the right of the hammer is pushed forward it permits the cylinder and barel to swing to the right for loading and extracting of cartridges. The rod under the barrel is used as a cartridge extractor. Caliber is .32. Moore was required to turn 3,376 revolvers over to Smith & Wesson in 1863 following court action.

Lucius W. Pond, Worcester, Massachusetts: The Pond revolvers were produced under patent 29,126 issued to A. J. Gibson on July 10, 1860, and assigned to I. P. Hale. Calibers were .32 and .44. The barrel is hinged in front of the hammer and tips up to load. After their unsuccessful lawsuit Pond was required

EVASIONS: Great ingenuity went into the development of these revolvers, all of which were designed to get around S&W's basic loading patent. 1) Connecticut .28, six shot; 2) Eagle .30, six shot; 3) Merwin & Bray .28, five shot; 4) Moore .32, six shot; 5) Slocum .32, five shot; 6) Allen & Wheelock .25, seven shot. All are shown to the same scale

to turn over to Smith & Wesson 4,486 revolvers. Arms sold previous to the court action do not carry the wording, "Manuf'd for Smith & Wesson . . ." as did those sold after the decree of the court.

E. A. Prescott, Worcester, Massachusetts: Produced under patent 30,245 of Oct. 2, 1860. Two distinct types were produced. The martial .38-caliber revolver was made with a trigger guard. A .32-caliber arm, similar to the .38 except having a spur trigger, was also manufactured. Another type .32-caliber arm will also be found which, with the exception of the solid frame, resembles the first model .32-caliber Smith & Wesson. A smaller Prescott revolver, identical with the .32 caliber in every respect, was made in .22 caliber. Prescott is one of the manufacturers who, when informed of the infringement of his arms upon those of Smith & Wesson, voluntarily ceased production at once.

J. Reid, New York: Operating in the early 1860's Reid produced both .22- and .32-caliber arms. The latter carries a patent date of April 28, 1863 (38,336), secured by James Reid of New York, which provided for a combination percussion and cartridge revolver. These revolvers were infringements and their manufacture was abandoned in 1863 when Reid turned his attention to the "My Friend" pepperboxes. A manufacturer by the name of W. Irving also produced these arms under Reid's patent.

C. Edward Sneider, Baltimore, Maryland: This unique 14-shot revolver was first patented on March 18, 1862 (34,703). It has two cylinders, each of which contains seven chambers. The cylinders are on the same cylinder pin, one in front of the other. A long firing pin on the hammer reaches over the rear cylinder to fire the cartridges in the front cylinder. The cylinders are then exchanged for the next seven shots. This revolver did not go into extensive production and specimens of it are scarce indeed.

Springfield Arms Co., Springfield, Massachusetts: Produced revolvers in .25, .30, and .32 calibers. Operated by James Warner, who later produced arms under his own name. In 1863 they were required to turn 1,513 revolvers over to Smith & Wesson.

James Warner Co., Springfield, Massachusetts: Produced by Warner under patent 17,904 of July 28, 1857, and resembles very much a percussion model also made by him. It is not, however, an alteration, though these may be encountered. It is not clear whether Warner operated his own plant at the same time as the Springfield Arms Co. It would appear that he did, but this cannot be verified.

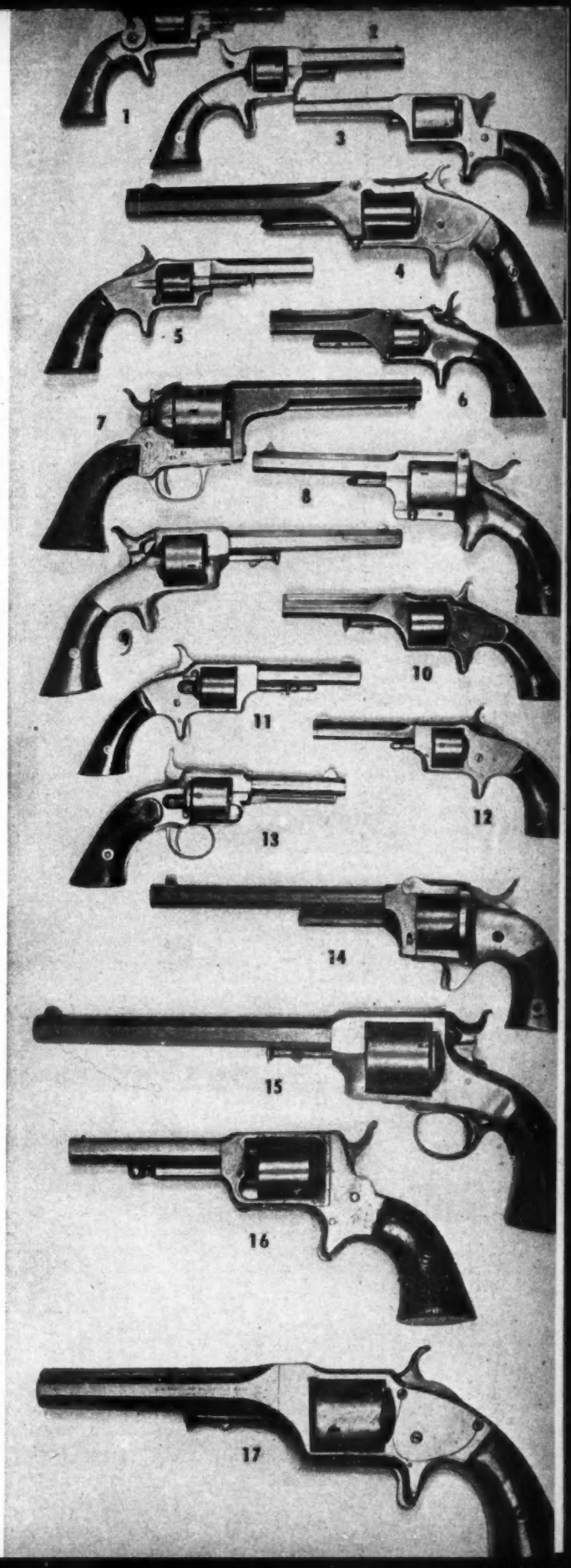
Western Arms Co., New York: Revolvers of .32 caliber bearing the name of this manufacturer are to be found. May have been produced by Bacon Arms Co.

Rollin White Arms Co., Lowell, Massachusetts: Organized to manufacture .22-caliber revolvers, which later were found to be infringements upon the White patent held by Smith & Wesson. The firm took its name without the consent of Rollin White. When he protested, the name was changed to Lowell Arms Co. Many of the 8,642 revolvers turned over to Smith & Wesson will be found to carry the Rollin White Arms Co. name in addition to the familiar line, "Made for Smith & Wesson . . ."

E. Whitney, New Haven, Connecticut: The lower half of the cylinder is encased by the brass frame and the trigger is located in the frame ahead of the cylinder. This rare arm was unquestionably produced under Whitney's patent 51,985 of Jan. 9, 1866.

Evasions

With the manufacture other than by Smith & Wesson of revolvers utilizing a cylinder bored through from end to end blocked by a court degree, a few of the more ingenious manufacturers sought methods of evading the White patent. Revolvers produced to "by-pass" the patent present a most interesting group in any collection. Here was American ingenuity at work, and the results are worthy of study. Most of them employ the front-loading principle *(Continued on next page)*



INFRINGEMENTS: All of these revolvers infringed on the S&W patent covering loading from rear of cylinder. 1) Ethan Allen .22, seven shot; 2) Bacon .22, seven shot; 3) Grant .22, six shot; 4) Lowell .32, six shot; 5) Lowell .22, seven shot; 6) Manhattan .22, seven shot; 7) Moore .32, seven shot; 8) Pond .32, six shot; 9) Prescott .32 six shot; 10) Prescott .22, seven shot; 11) Springfield .30, five shot; 12) White .22, seven shot; 13) Warner .30, five shot; 14) Gross .30, seven shot; 15) Prescott .38, six shot; 16) Bliss .25, six shot, and 17) Prescott .32, six shot

in which the cartridges were loaded from the front of the cylinder. Ingenious as they were, none enjoyed a particularly lengthy life, or popularity. Mention is only made in passing of the Thuer's patent front-loading alteration for the Colt revolver. This alteration, which was designed late in 1868 to evade the Smith & Wesson patent, was a factory experimental job built on the regular frame of the percussion revolvers, and was not a completely new arm manufactured as an evasion. Like the other evasions it did not prove too practical. The front loading cartridge designed for it is illustrated in Figure 1.

Allen & Wheelock, Worcester, Massachusetts: Used a cartridge with a lip containing fulminate on the perimeter of the base (Fig. 2). Chambers were slotted to take the lip. Produced under Allen's patent of Sept. 25, 1860; made in .25, .32, .38, and .44 calibers.

Connecticut Arms Co., Norfolk, Connecticut: This .28-caliber revolver employed a cup-primer (Fig. 3). The fulminate was contained in the rim around the cup. The cartridge was loaded into the chamber from the front, and was extracted by means of a lever on the right side of the frame. The cylinder is stamped with two patent dates, March 1, 1864, and Jan. 16, 1866.

Silas Crispin, New York: Rarest of the Smith & Wesson evasions is a revolver patented by Silas Crispin on Oct. 3, 1865. The 6-shot cylinder is in two parts, the rear section of which is not bored through. The arm used a very unusual type of cartridge (Fig. 4) which had a ridge containing the fulminate around the middle. It was inserted into the rear section after which the barrel, to which the front section was attached, was brought up into position. Very little is known of this scarce revolver.

Eagle Arms Co., New York: Took over the manufacture of .30-caliber revolvers from the Plant Manufacturing Co. which had previously made the Plant front-loading revolvers under these same patents (Willard C. Ellis patent, July 12, 1859; N. White patent, July 21, 1853).

Merwin & Bray, New York: Acted as sales agents for arms produced by different manufacturers. Cup-primer, front-loading revolvers sold by them were produced by Plant Mfg. Co., of New Haven, Conn. Calibers of the arms handled by them and produced by Plant were .28, .30, .36, and .42.

Moore's Patent Firearms Co., Brooklyn, New York: Produced under David Williamson's patent, January 5, 1864. Used a cartridge with a small tit-like projection on the base (Fig. 5). This projection protruded through an opening in the rear of the otherwise closed cylinder. It too, was loaded from the front end of the cylinder. A .45-caliber Moore revolver is known to collectors.

Plant Manufacturing Co., New Haven, Connecticut: Produced revolvers (cup-primer, front-loading) under the Ellis and White patents. As mentioned above, arms manufactured by them were sold by Merwin and Bray. The Plant revolver was brought out to supersede the Prescott revolver which had been declared an infringement of the Smith & Wesson. Calibers were .28, .30, .36, and .42. Identical revolvers may be found stamped "Reynolds, Plant & Hotchkiss, New Haven, Conn."

Lucius W. Pond, Worcester, Massachusetts: When his first revolvers were found to be infringements, Pond turned to the front-loading type. The rear of the cylinder was made solid, except for a slot through which the firing pin struck the rim of the cartridge. Each chamber contained a sleeve which was bored to take a rim-fire metallic cartridge. This sleeve could be withdrawn for loading. The revolver was called, "Pond's Separate-Chambers Revolver" at the time of its introduction. Made in .22 and .32 calibers.

Slocum (Brooklyn Fire Arms Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.): This revolver, with a sliding sleeve in each chamber of the cylinder, was produced under the Frank P. Slocum patent of April 14, 1863. When the sleeve was pushed forward over the guiding arm, the .32-caliber rim-fire cartridge could be inserted into the chamber and the sleeve drawn back over it. The back of the cylinder was solid save for a slot through which the firing pin on the hammer struck the rim of the cartridge. After the expiration of the White patent Slocum produced an arm with a regular bored-through cylinder.

E. Whitney, New Haven, Connecticut: While Whitney did make an alteration of his Navy .36 caliber percussion revolver to take a lip cartridge, it is thought that a six-shot .22 caliber revolver was the only lip fire he manufactured commercially. Very few are thought to have been made; at least they show up rather infrequently today.

Imitations

In the spring of 1869, the expiration date of the Rollin White patent, a renewal application was denied by the government on the grounds that the right to manufacture metallic-cartridge revolvers should be free and open, and not the sole possession of any one firm. No doubt some of these same government officials recalled that had the White patent not been in force during the Civil War, many more troops might have been equipped with metallic-cartridge revolvers instead of the percussion "cap-and-ball" variety.

In their eagerness to get set to manufacture cartridge revolvers following the expiration of the White patent, many firms took the line of least resistance. That is, they merely took the Smith & Wesson "tip-up" arms for models and proceeded to copy them lock, stock and barrel. It is this group of arms that fall under the third heading of this study.

Aetna: Resembles the third model Smith & Wesson .22-caliber revolver. (Manufacturer not known.)

Alling: Another of the imitations of the third model .22-caliber Smith & Wesson. This one does not have the top cylinder-stop spring, as is found on the original.

American Standard Tool Co., Newark, New Jersey: Patterned after the second model Smith & Wesson 22-caliber. The cylinder stop spring is found in the frame below the cylinder and not on top as in the S&W. In 1870 the Manhattan Firearms Mfg. Co. was reorganized as the American Standard Tool Co.

O. S. Cummings, Lowell, Massachusetts: A very scarce imitation of the third model .22-caliber Smith & Wesson. Another arm has been called to my attention which appears to be identical to this Cummings in every respect except that its barrel is stamped Merwin Hulbert & Co., N. Y. It is generally agreed that Hopkins & Allen produced arms for Merwin Hulbert & Co. but it is not known if they produced this arm for both Cummings and Merwin Hulbert & Co., or if it was produced by another firm altogether.

Deringer, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Manufactured imitations, in calibers .22 and .32, of the third model Smith & Wesson revolvers. This was the same company which produced the famous "Deringer" percussion pocket arms.

Manhattan Firearms Mfg. Co., New York: Since this company was compelled to cease the manufacture of an infringement of the first model Smith & Wesson .22 caliber revolver, it is logical to assume that they waited until the expiration of the White patent before producing this imitation of the second model .22-caliber revolver. Shortly after production started however, the firm name was changed to American Standard Tool Co. They continued with the production of this same arm, changing only the name on the top of the barrel.

J. M. Marlin, New Haven, Connecticut: A very common imitation of the third model .22- and .32-caliber Smith & Wesson. A .30 caliber was also produced. Differing only in the style of grips is a .38-caliber "tip-up" revolver also produced by Marlin.

Mohawk Manufacturing Company: This imitation of the third model .32-caliber Smith & Wesson is one of the not-too-frequently encountered types.

It is hoped that this study will help to clear up some of the questions which have surrounded these early cartridge arms and their connection with the Smith & Wesson story. As stated before, there are undoubtedly other revolvers which may be encountered, and which seem to fall into one of these classifications. However, it is believed that the ones here described will give a fair idea of the beginnings of metallic-cartridge revolvers in America.

IF YOUR SHOOTING BUDGET IS RUNNING LOW THAT OLD HANDGUN OF GRANDPA'S CAN BE THE SOURCE OF MANY A DAY'S PLEASURE *

SHOOTING THE CB'S

By H. V. NOBLE

THE SLOW, DELIBERATE, and friendly shooting encouraged by the old-time muzzle-loading pistols has gathered many converts to these 'spoon-fed' guns during recent years. The popularity of the sport is gaining steadily. The annual National Muzzle Loading Matches held at Friendship, Indiana, every autumn now include a series of pistol matches. The ranks have also been increased by the entry of skilled cartridge-pistol shooters who have become intrigued with the shooting capabilities of front-fed arms. Many shooters and nonshooters have become interested in muzzle-loading guns and, not wanting to carry a trailer full of rifle gear around from match to match, have turned to the muzzle-loading pistol which requires less than a pocketful of equipment. The old soft-coal burners are economical to shoot, and their man-sized roar will bring a glowing warmth to a he-man's heart with every shot.

More to the point, perhaps, accuracy of the highest order may be obtained with the old black powder pistols—for all practical purposes equalling that of modern cartridge arms. The ultimate score capable of being fired with either gun is strictly dependent on your own skill and perseverence.

The muzzle-loading pistols commonly used today are of two types—the flintlock and the cap lock. The flintlocks are limited to a single shot, while the cap locks are either of the single-shot or revolver type. Some of the single-shot pistols are smooth bores of the military or duelling type and will give very practical accuracy. But many have fine rifled barrels.

With the flintlock, most shooters have trouble avoiding an involuntary flinch when the ignited powder in the flash pan spurts out. In most cases the gun has already discharged its ball before the flinch has done any harm, but repetition of the event usually leads to an anticipated flinch which will sooner or later cause wild shots.

The advent of the percussion cap was followed by rifled single-shot pistols and revolvers. Both are far more pleasant to shoot for the timid of heart, and are capable of much greater accuracy. The single-shot percussion type pistols found on the firing line often come from a number of central European countries and Great Britain, though many were made in this country. They range from plain American arms of the greatest simplicity to beautifully carved, engraved, and inlaid guns from the shops of skilled and painstaking European craftsmen.

The revolvers one sees most at the matches are the Colt and Remington, both made in the middle 1800's. They are extremely rugged and reliable guns, capable of excellent scores on targets at ranges up to 50 yards. One major difference in these two guns is readily apparent. The Remington has a top strap joining the front and rear of the frame over the cylinder. To my way of thinking, this makes the Remington the stronger of the two, but most shooters will agree that the Colt is more than amply strong. In any case both are very fine guns.

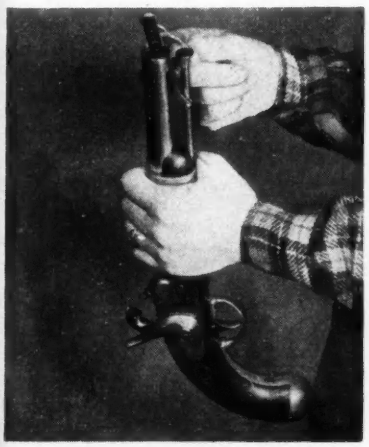
Of recent years a few 'modern' cap-and-ball pistols have made their appearance. One variety is merely the 'tuning up' of one of the older guns and the addition of a modern ramp front sight and an adjustable rear sight, similar to those added to the modern target-type cartridge guns. None of the attachments add to the inherent accuracy of the gun but they may aid the shooter, actually or psychologically, to fire a better score.

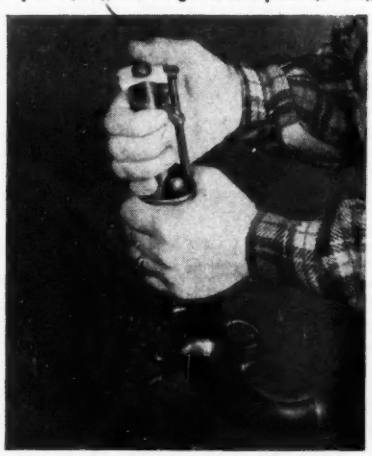
A few truly modern single-shot muzzle-loaders have been made which use a light, short-fall, high-speed hammer. These equal the best of modern speed locks. Some of these use wad-cutter or round-nose bullets with false muzzles and bullet starters. In a machine rest they might easily prove superior to the best of modern revolvers.

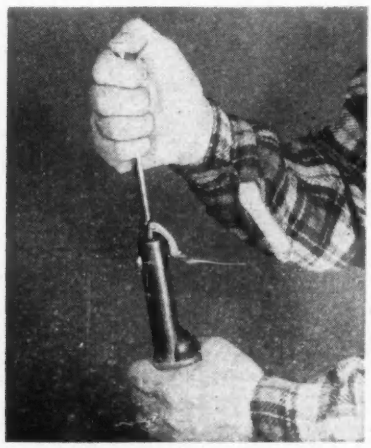
A single-shot, cap-and-ball pistol with either a smooth or rifled barrel requires only two loading tools: a powder meas-

* *For news of another way to economize on your shooting expenditures, see the picture story on page 13, this issue.*

Pouring powder into the author's .56 caliber Aston pistol (left), centering ball and patch (center), and pushing the ball and charge 'home' (right)







ure, and a ramrod long enough to seat the bullet. The measure may be that attached to a powder flask, or it may be a simple dipper made by putting a handle on an empty cartridge case. In a pinch, the palm of the shooter's hand is not too bad. (Recently in a very few minutes I learned to pour powder from a standard one-pound can onto the palm of my left hand so that the variation of weight between charges was less than ten percent. This variation might show up in target shooting but it would cause less variation in point of impact than the average error in holding.) A bullet starter is usually an optional luxury item that is of assistance in starting a tight-fitting bullet down the barrel, although the use of a 'slug' or conical-type bullet practically requires a starter plus a false muzzle to properly align and start the bullet down the barrel. The 'makings' for the load are black powder, bullet, patch, and percussion cap.

The actual loading of a single shot is simplicity itself:

1) Measure powder charge and pour into muzzle of gun.
2) Place and center wet patch (commonly called 'spit patch') over muzzle.
3) Place ball in center of patch.
4) Push ball and patch firmly down onto powder with ramrod.
5) Place percussion cap on nipple.

Caution: In match shooting and for any other safe shooting, the percussion cap is *never* placed on the gun until the shooter is on the firing line and ready to shoot. It is also well to be sure that the barrel and nipple are free from obstructions such as dirt and oil before putting in the powder charge.

The Colt or Remington revolvers normally used these days have an attached bullet seater and require only a powder measure for completing the loading equipment. The makings for a revolver load are black powder, bullet, grease, and cap. The loading procedure is as follows:

1) Measure powder charge and pour into chamber.
2) Place bullet over chamber and rotate cylinder until bullet is centered beneath bullet seater.
3) Operate bullet seater, pushing bullet down.
4) Repeat the above operations until all chambers are loaded.
5) Apply grease (such as No. 3 pump grease) over bullets until each chamber is completely filled.
6) Place caps on nipples.

The use of grease over the bullets serves two very important purposes. It prevents the firing of two or more chambers at the same time—caused by flash-backs past imperfectly seated bullets in chambers adjacent to that aligned with the barrel, and secondly, it prevents the caking of the black-powder residue in the barrel.

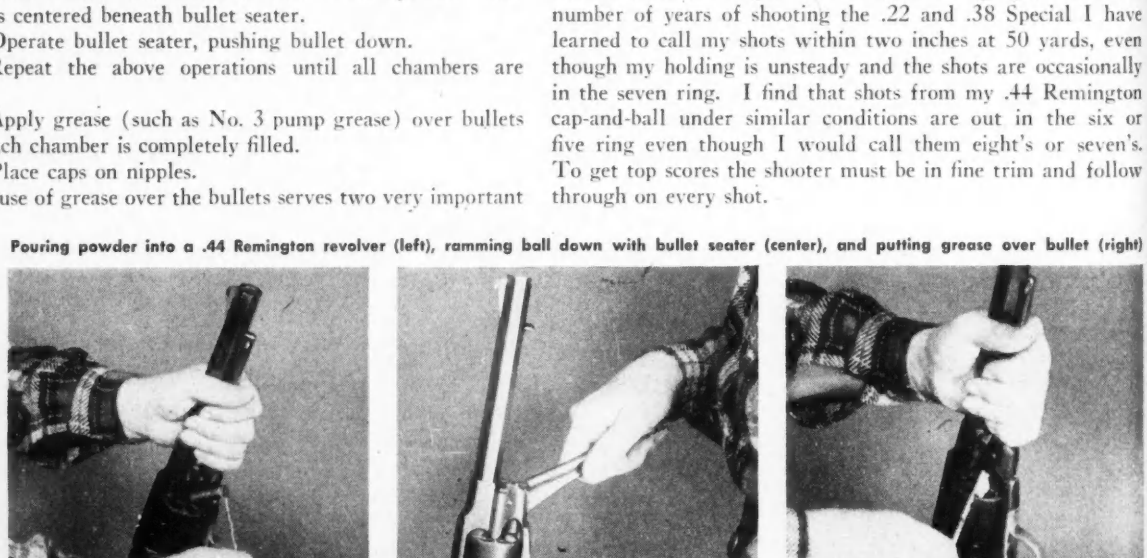
On very hot days I have fired a hundred or more shots from my Remington, using grease to cover the bullets, without the slightest indication of excessive fouling or a loss of accuracy. Another time I forgot to use grease over the first six shots. The fouling caked in the barrel and the group size was three or four times normal diameter. I then fired twenty-four shots properly 'greased' but the fouling persisted so that the group size was still abnormally large. I finally had to clean the barrel thoroughly with wet patches before I could get normal accuracy again with standard loadings.

Although I have never fired either the cap-and-ball or modern cartridge pistol from a machine rest, I believe that there is little practical difference in the accuracy of the two guns at 25 yards, and probably up to 50 yards. My experience is that when I am 'holding' well my scores are about the same with the .22, the .38 Special, or .44 cap-and-ball.

That brings up a point in shooting these old fellows with their long hammer throw, slow ignition, and slow-burning powder. The time from trigger release until the time the ball leaves the muzzle is much longer than with a modern cartridge arm. The shooter must 'follow through' with each shot. The slightest unsteadiness or swing of the gun during the let-off time will cause the shot to go much farther from the center of the target than with a cartridge gun. After a number of years of shooting the .22 and .38 Special I have learned to call my shots within two inches at 50 yards, even though my holding is unsteady and the shots are occasionally in the seven ring. I find that shots from my .44 Remington cap-and-ball under similar conditions are out in the six or five ring even though I would call them eight's or seven's. To get top scores the shooter must be in fine trim and follow through on every shot.

H. V. NOBLE *knows pistol shooting. Always an active devotee of NRA registered-tournament competition with modern arms, he has more recently taken seriously to the front-end feeders, and has participated regularly in the handgun events of the National Muzzle-Loading Rifle Association's tournaments and has held that Association's national handgun title. Incidentally, his wife, Rosalind, is also a pistol shooter of considerable prowess. Her marksmanship carried the women's national pistol title of the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, in 1947.*

Pouring powder into a .44 Remington revolver (left), ramming ball down with bullet seater (center), and putting grease over bullet (right)



As with modern guns, maximum accuracy with the cap-and-balls is obtainable only with uniformity and consistency of loading and shooting techniques. In general, common sense will dictate the procedures to follow, but here are a few of the most important things to remember:

1) Before you start loading, get rid of that smoke, even if it is a pipe. Smoking and black powder mix all right, but violently! Nothing is more disconcerting to your fellow-shooters than to be showered with bits and chunks of your fingers plus a few odd pieces of tin from your powder flask.

2) Be sure that the nipple is free from all dirt and obstructions which might cause hang-fires.

3) When a wet patch is used in a single-shot pistol, do not delay shooting the shot beyond a couple of minutes. The dampness from the patch will also dampen the powder, causing a loss of power, hence a low shot.

4) Always load with the sprue or cut-off portion of the ball up, so that it leaves the gun first. This makes for greater uniformity.

5) Use bullets from same batch of alloy for every shot, particularly during a match. Pure lead is the softest, hence the easiest to load although .22 caliber bullet metal may be used with excellent results.

6) Never put on the caps or put powder in the flash pan of a flintlock until you are on the firing line and ready to shoot. Remember that these guns were originally designed to *kill* and they can still be very efficient at the job. "I didn't know it was loaded" is an overworked alibi.

At the National Muzzle Loading Matches held at Friendship, Indiana, each year, the short-gun shooters battle it out for the National Championship. The various pistol matches are: (1) ten shots slow fire at 25 yards for any revolver; (2) ten shots slow fire at 25 yards for any pistol (single shot or revolver); (3) ten shots timed fire at 25 yards fired at the rate of five shots in 20 seconds; and (4) 10 shots slow fire at 50 yards. The winning slow-fire scores at 25 yards have run consistently 95 or higher for several years. The 50-yard event is new and too few scores have been shot at this range to establish any average. Standard American pistol targets are used at a range.

Scoring in muzzle-loading matches is a bit different from that used for NRA events because bullet sizes vary. So the *center* of the bullet hole must touch the scoring ring to count for the higher score instead of the edge of the hole just touching the scoring ring, as in modern handgun matches. This effectively reduces the diameter of the target for the muzzle-loaders, so that a 95 score might approach a possible if it were scored the same as a cartridge gun.

As the reader may guess, there is a tremendous interest in shooting muzzle-loading pistols. However, there is a great scarcity of good guns or even guns that can be suitably rebuilt at a reasonable cost. This has discouraged many would-be shooters from trying to get into the game. Others have paid high prices for pieces of junk, and after a few discouraging shots have given up in disgust.

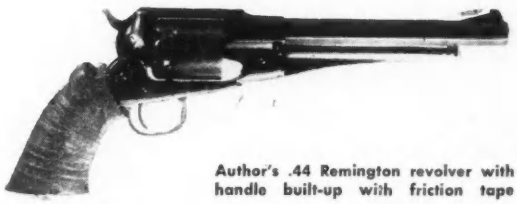
Quite often the question is raised as to what is the best gun to buy. My preference with the cap-and-ball revolvers is the Remington in .44 caliber. I like the Remington for the added strength given by the top strap over its cylinder. I dislike the Colt for its inferior rear sight, which is a V-notch in the hammer. However, one of the smallest groups I've ever seen fired at the National Matches was made by a Colt.

I like the .44 caliber because its heavy bullet bucks the wind better than does a smaller diameter ball. (A ten mile an hour breeze will blow even a .44 ball off its course at least three inches at 25 yards). Nevertheless the highest score ever made to date at the National Matches was fired by Mr. B. G. Archambeault of Dayton, Ohio, with a little .36 caliber Remington.

Cap-and-ball pistol may be charged with powder and ball but cap should never be put on until shooter is ready to fire gun

I would like my .44 Remington to have a big ramp front sight and an adjustable click-type rear sight such as gunsmith Joe Lamping of Cincinnati and a number of others can install. The over-all job reblued would make a very pretty looking gun and, with a tight action and good barrel, would really shoot. This has been proved by the numerous excellent scores turned in by just such guns during the last few years.

For a single-shot pistol I would prefer the .44 caliber again,

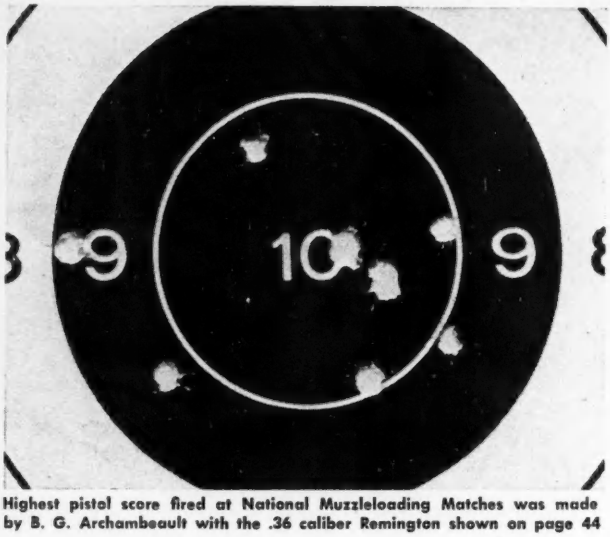


Author's .44 Remington revolver with handle built-up with friction tape

.36 caliber Colt revolver. Handguns pictured here are not to scale

A .36 caliber Remington. Top strap over cylinder makes it stronger than Colt

Boys-Lamping Colt on built-up cap-and-ball frame is rifled for .38 caliber bullets



Highest pistol score fired at National Muzzleloading Matches was made by B. G. Archambeault with the .36 caliber Remington shown on page 44

this time with a speed lock to minimize the time from trigger release until the time the bullet actually leaves the barrel. To my knowledge, such a gun doesn't exist but a similar gun in .38 Special is illustrated on the previous page. Mr. Dave Boys, also of Cincinnati, and Mr. Lamping built this gun by cutting down a cap-and-ball Colt revolver frame, reducing the size and throw of the hammer, and speeding up its fall. A new frame was built by welding a steel block to the old Colt frame and then drilling and and threading the built-up portion to take a barrel rifled for .38 Special bullets. The gun seems to be just as fast in action as a modern pistol, for I find that I have no difficulty in calling my shots correctly. I personally would perfer to use a .44 caliber ball with patch rather than a conical bullet because of the ease with which it could be loaded. Its accuracy would be everything that could be desired and it would be a very pleasant gun to shoot.

The guns I have described are those I personally would like best for target shooting. However, I don't possess either. Nevertheless I have a lot of fun with my old battle-scarred relic, which is still in good mechanical shape. There must be dozens of such guns in equally good condition. Before it is shot though, a competent gunsmith should give it a complete over-all inspection. If it passes his critical eye, get his instructions for loading, get the 'makings', and take it out and give it a chance to show you a pleasant afternoon's shooting. The cost will be trifling, less than for any cartridge gun, and you have the freshest ammo possible. You can make your loads and shoot them in less than a minute—none of this stale day-old or month-old stuff. To my way of thinking there is no more pleasant way of spending an afternoon than with friends and their cap-and-ball pistols doing formal target shooting or banging away at tin cans. It is good for the brisk weather of spring or fall, it is good for a sultry summer afternoon, and it can't be beat for a snowy winter day, properly backed up by a blazing fire a safe distance behind the firing line.

Brothers, it's really good shooting! ♦ ♦ ♦

RIFLES FOR TURKEYS

(Continued from page 28)

two hundred yards—one at 295 yards. It is too powerful for turkeys except at long range, but I have killed two or three big gobblers with it at ranges under a hundred yards and it did not tear unduly. On the other hand, in January, 1948, I shot with this load a medium-sized turkey at a range of one hundred yards approximately, while it was standing in the top of a tall cypress in a dense river swamp. The bullet struck in the right side just below the ribs, and all the insides were badly mangled. This experience clearly demonstrated that this load is too destructive at medium ranges to be used on anything but big gobblers.

The best turkey loads are the two listed above with the Winchester 45-grain soft-point Hornet bullet, which for some reason will not perform satisfactorily with the high-velocity charge of 13.2 grains of No. 4227 powder. I have killed a number of turkeys with these two loads, using for the shorter ranges the one charged with 11.5 grains of No. 4227 powder, and for the longer ranges the one charged with 10.5 grains of No. 2400 powder, which I estimate to be about two hundred feet faster. Both give instantaneous kills and both are exceptionally accurate. In addition, they do not mutilate unduly, but drill uniform holes about a half inch in diameter.

The best .22 caliber bullet I have found for turkeys, whether large or small, is the 45-grain Winchester Hornet soft-point. It has gilt-edge accuracy, and mushrooms just enough to produce the requisite killing shock. The most accurate Hornet bullet is probably the Wotkyns-Morse 8S in 45-grain weight, but it is definitely not a good killer on turkeys. This I proved by actual test. I had some K-Hornet loads made up with 10.5 grains of No. 2400 powder behind this 45-grain WM soft-point bullet. My first shot with such load was at a young gobbler standing in the top of a tree, which was ninety paces from me. I hit him at the base of the neck, making an instantaneous kill. Later in the afternoon I called up another young gobbler and shot him with the same load at about the distance I had killed the first one. I fired at the butt of the wing, and he went down. After considerable fluttering, he got up and managed to fly away. I found his carcass about two weeks later nearly a mile down the ridge from where I had shot him.

To date I have owned and tested seventeen different rifles made up for various versions of a .22 caliber high-velocity cartridge based on the .25-20 single-shot case. They all show most remarkable accuracy at all ranges. This is especially true with the Winchester 45-grain soft-point, the Sisk 41-grain, 50-grain, and 55-grain soft-point, and the various WM 8S bullets.

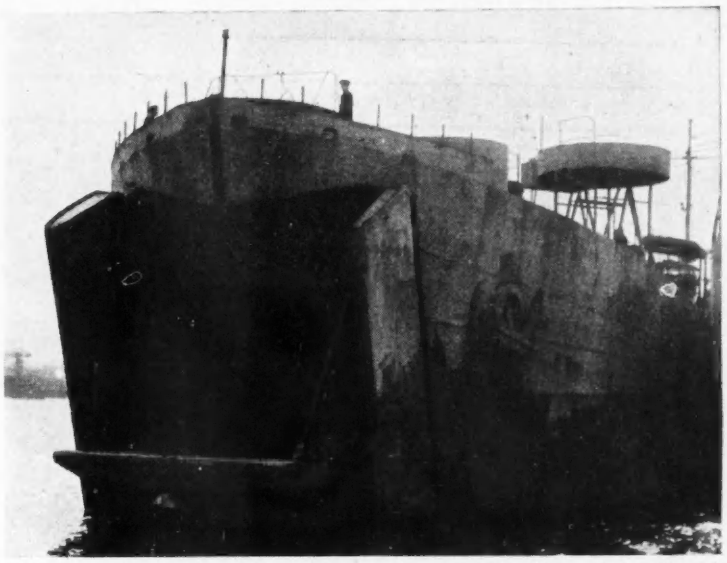
Based on many years of experience with various types of cartridges, I am decidedly of the opinion that the very best loads for wild turkeys are .22 caliber 45-grain soft-point bullets at velocities of 2,400 to 2,600 feet a second. These assure certain kills on all classes of turkeys up to one hundred and fifty yards. The best rifles to handle these bullets at such velocities are those chambered for the Hornet and K-Hornet cartridges. At ranges beyond 150 yards, I would recommend the same bullet at higher velocities, and nothing will handle it better than a good rifle chambered for the Kilbourn-Hornet case. ♦ ♦ ♦

UNIQUE JUNIOR CLUB RANGE

AFLOAT IN THE harbor of the Naval Base at Yokohama, Japan, is the range of the Pioneer Junior Rifle Club, the first junior shooting organization outside the territorial limits of the United States and its possessions chartered by the NRA.

After the occupation of Japan by American forces, a number of Navy vessels were turned over to the Japanese for use in repatriating soldiers and civilians to their home islands. Among them was the LST, which was redesignated the Q O11 and manned by Japanese personnel though it operated under control of the American Navy. But the Q O11 ran aground, and the Japanese government, finding the cost of repairs exceeding its value to them, declared it a total loss.

Under the sponsorship of Captain B. W. Decker, USN, Commanding Officer, Fleet Activities, at the Naval Base, Yokohama, and with Commander Ernest H. Hale as organizer and instructor, the Pioneer Junior Rifle Club was formed in August 1947. Club members were sons and daughters of American occupation personnel. NRA charter was issued on September 17, 1947. Under direction of Commander Hale, the tank deck was cleared and five targets installed in front of a suitable, safe backstop. Shooting mats were provided, and the club obtained a number of .22 caliber rifles for use of members.

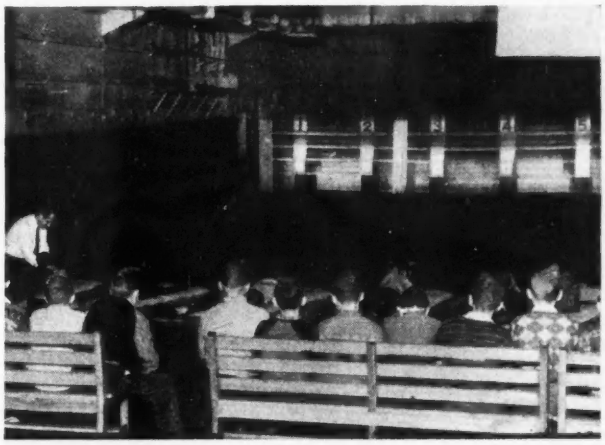


In Yokohama, Japan, a former Navy LST houses the range of the Pioneer Junior Rifle club

At the time the Pioneer Junior Rifle Club received the charter, it was composed of 59 junior shooters, all of whom are students at the Tokyo American School. Because of the large club membership and the limited number of firing points on the range, the boys were separated into two groups, Division A of boys over 12 years of age and Division B from 9 to 11.

On February 11 of this year the club sponsored one of its most successful shoots, a Father and Son meet. Forty-three boys and twenty-one fathers travelled by bus from Tokyo Army Base to Yokohama to shoot.

Though the shooting membership is constantly changing because of transfers of parents to the States and the arrival of new occupation personnel, the club seems set to keep its range on an even keel until the American Army and Navy leaves Japan.



Range of Pioneer Club, located on tank deck of the LST, has only five firing points. Man kneeling at left is Commander E. H. Hale, club instructor

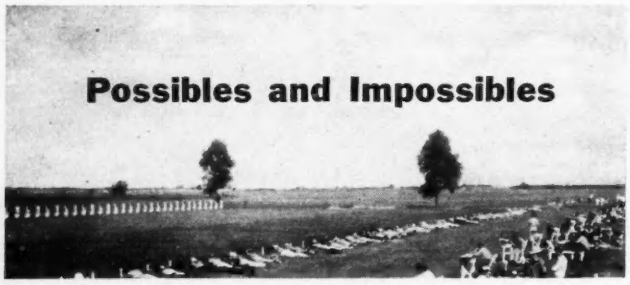
Above: H. A. Brenn (center) and sons, Harry (left) and Bruce (right), fire in the club's Father-Son match. Right: Mr. Brenn and Harry witness scoring. Incidentally Harry outscored father

A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle Reflor

VOL. 12, NO. 1 BRIDGEPORT, JANUA

Possibles and Impossibles



Now that Frank Kahrs has retired, it becomes necessary for us to take over this column. "Tain't easy!" The old Maestro is hard to follow, and all we can say is, "We will do our best."

* * *

Recently we heard from "St. Pete" announcing tentative dates for The National Mid Winter Rifle Matches on March 8th to 12th inclusive. It will be an outstanding shoot, with keen competition in all classes, but aside from this, it's a fine trip to get away from the snow and ice and remove the winter shivers. You will enjoy yourself if you can make it. Give the good wife a break and take her along. It is not too early to make your plans and reservations now. That is why we are tipping you off.

* * *

Congratulations to Chapter No. 1 of the Maine Rifle Instructors Club, the first of its kind in the country. Twenty-seven riflemen from the Portland area have formed an organization for the purpose of teaching juniors the safe handling of fire-arms, good sportsmanship and basic training in rifle marksmanship. This is a new organization and we feel that each member should be commended for his interest in the youth of America, and their foresight in encouraging young boys and girls to learn the proper method of handling fire-arms at an early age.

* * *

The Maine Club is already a growing organization and has attracted enough attention to get a full page spread in the Portland Sunday Telegram. They have several nice junior clubs going and just as soon as other members can qualify as National Rifle Association instructors, they will help more junior clubs in their training programs.

We wish Chapter I of the Maine Rifle Instructors Club continued success and sincerely hope that their idea will spread throughout the nation.

Another recent arrival in the morning's mail was the date for the National Mid-Winter Pistol Matches to be held as usual at Tampa, Florida, on March 15th through March 19th. You "Pistoleers" who have had the privilege of attending these matches in the past and, in particular, those among you who have been promising yourselves this trip for "next year," better get busy and send in your reservation as early as possible. Surely the piggy bank can stand some extra tapping for this important occasion.

* * *

The recent National Championship Matches at Quantico brought out not only most of the country's top handgunners, but also produced the most knowing Pistol Match dog we have ever seen. That "yaller" hound was actually amazingly intelligent in the way he went forward with each scoring squad, looked the targets over, and then returned to the rear of the firing line, whether it be the 50 yard or 25 yard point, to await the firing of the next string.

The Marine Corps can certainly be congratulated on the splendid manner in which they provided for the conduct of these matches and it was grand to see all that "high brass" taking such an active interest in the events. Of course, even Marine "brass" couldn't foresee Mother Nature's coming down with acute asthma and causing that big wind that blew for the first two days on our small-bore riflemen. What those boys on the ground had to say "weren't fittin' " for a family magazine.

BANNER HA G
AS INDOOR AC

Remington Rifles Earn Shoot ise
For Accuracy a W

AROUND OUR CLUB . . . "The Worry

I WOULD COME TONIGHT
OW-W! ANOTHER CRAMP AND MY FOOT'S ASLEEP—NEED SOME NEW PADDING IN THIS JACKET, GETTIN' OLD I GUESS—HEY! WHO BUMPED THE TABLE
FOR THE OF MIKE— THAT MOA I'VE BEEN TO GET TH OFF FOR LAST HO
I DON'T MIND HIS GRIPING SO M IT'S THE CREAKING OF HIS JOI THAT BOTHERS ME.

Remington News

WEATHER:
Temperature's down—indoor scores coming up

EPORT, JANUARY, 1949 — First Class Reading Matter for Rifle and Pistol Shooters

AGUN SEASON IN VIEW
ACTIVITIES GET UNDERWAY

...ootraise
...y and Workmanship

...ltimers, Tyros Alike Applaud Features of Remington Match Rifles

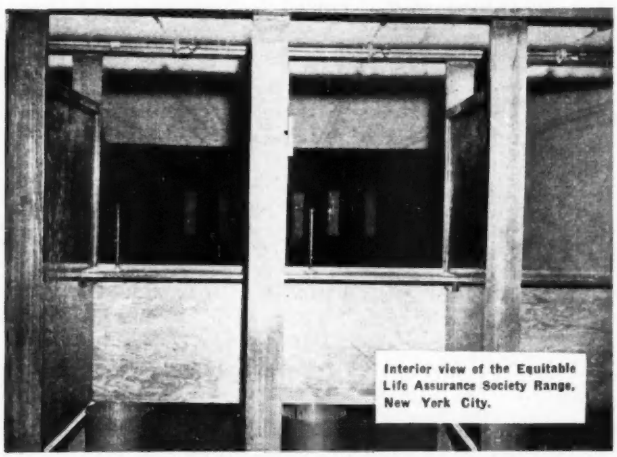
...Model 37—Here's a precision ...strument, built like a fine ...atch. Its famous "Miracle ...igger" has a smooth, sharp, ...p, lightning fast let-off . . . ...h no perceptible backlash or ...vement when you squeeze off ...r shot. It's almost impos...le to flinch. There's no drag ...creep to spoil the shot. And ...ooters are sure to appreciate ...single sighting plane, which ...s you put your cheek against ...e same precise spot on the ...nb of the stock, no matter ...ether you use iron or tele...pe sights.

...Model 513T—For superb ac...cy and smooth handling, ...hard to beat this mod...tely priced rifle. Among the ...tures most liked by veteran ...rtsmen are its heavy match ...rrel, target stock, microm... sights, and the comfort... adjustable front sling ...rel. No wonder so many ...ters say there's no better ...ch rifle value than the Rem...ton 513T.

...Model 521T — This popular ...red, easy handling rifle is ...nd for precision shooting in ...positions. It has a self-cock... bolt, double-locking lugs, ...rugated trigger. And a sep...te sear for smooth, crisp ... The 25 inch, round, ta... barrel is rifled for pre... accuracy. All in all, it's ...well match rifle for all ...ooters.

...ma, Kleanbore, Targetmaster are ... U. S. Pat. Off. by Remington ... Company Inc., Bridgeport 2, ...

Veteran Shooters Back Big Recruiting Drive, Instruction Courses Popular As Program Begins



Interior view of the Equitable Life Assurance Society Range, New York City.

Bridgeport, Conn., January, 1948. With the new season off to a flying start, many club ranks are swelling throughout the nation. Veteran shooters have been mighty busy during past months getting new names on the membership lists. And many new clubs are springing up.

It's a healthy sign for the sport to observe the interest the oldtimers are taking in bringing the newcomers along. Instruction courses are being organized by club officers. And there's no better training for the tyro than to shoot shoulder-to-shoulder with the old masters. The outcome is a cinch to be keener competition and a greater interest in the sport.

With more shooters on the firing lines, the demand for dependable Remington match ammunition is unprecedented. For the boys who know their way around are making sure their greener cronies shoot the

best. And it's tough to beat the hair-line accuracy and consistence of "Palma Kleanbore" and "Police Targetmaster." Many of the fledgelings report that Remington ammo is helping to make professional-looking groups a reality instead of a rosy dream!

MATCH AMMUNITION GIVEN "THE WORKS" IN RIGID REMINGTON BALLISTICS TESTS

They don't miss a trick in these "Torture Tests" of Remington Ammunition. Every day test batches of Remington cartridges are picked at random from the production lines and

rushed to the ballistics labs, where experts give them a thorough inspection, never-varying in its intensity.

For example, they test the accuracy of match ammo by firing round after round at 100 yards from machine rests. Shape and weight of bullets are scrutinized by expert eyes to conform to strictest specifications. Then pressure tests are made in special guns to assure uniform pressures and shooting safety. And the primer gets a going-over with weights dropped on a firing pin from a specified height. No wonder Remington ammunition is so reliable!

These are only a few of the tests. But they may give some idea of the pains taken to bring shooters, who rely on Remington, the very finest "possible" ammo for accuracy and dependability in match shooting.

THE OLD COACH'S PAGE

No one ever fired a gun without using muscles to hold it on the point of aim and to squeeze the trigger. A shooter uses other muscles to stand with, and still others to hold his body in position and to breathe with. He focuses his eyes with muscles and, if he makes a poor shot, uses others to cuss with. If he is a hunter, he must walk over all sorts of terrain and perhaps do something which resembles mountain climbing. All of which gives rise to the subject of general conditioning.

MUSCULAR CONDITIONING FOR SHOOTING

THERE ARE TWO muscle groups which figure prominently in shooting. These muscles and their effects are not very important in prone, sitting, or kneeling positions for the simple reason that the positions are designed to obviate the use of the muscles as much as possible, substituting the bony structure of the body as a means of support for the rifle. But for the man who does offhand rifle work or uses a shotgun, or whose sport is handgun shooting, holding and aiming mean something quite different.

In prone, sitting, and kneeling positions the muscles tie the frame together to make as nearly as possible a rigid support, a sort of human machine rest for the gun. But in snapshooting, wing shooting, or handgun target work the bones do not form triangles and parallelograms of stiffness. They act only as a flexible framework for the muscles to work from, and by their very structure muscles are never rigid. The pulsations of blood from the heart, to name one thing, prevents any purely motionless holding with the muscles. Muscular inefficiency is the result of a number of things, but usually pure weakness from lack of enough strenuous work for proper muscular development causes it. Those who live outdoors and do work that is to a large extent manual, farmers, woodsmen, ranchers, and others, take naturally to guns, and the work they do provide them with both the necessary strength and coordination to handle a firearm easily. With the office worker, however, it is often a different story, and for one reason only. The two groups of muscles which do more than any others to control a shotgun or handgun are the ones that are the least exercised by the average man who does no manual labor. Yet to the boxer, tennis player, fencer, violinist, or piano player, as well as to the shooter, these same muscles and their exercise and control are vital to maximum performance.

"Well, why doesn't the fool stop beating around the bush and name 'em?"

Alright, chum, here they are: The two muscle groups are the trapezius and deltoids. A little exploratory work around the neck and shoulders will help locate them. The trapezius is the muscle that fills the space between the neck and the shoulder. The deltoid is the one that caps the shoulder and runs half-way down the outside of the arm. To find out their action, carry a heavy suitcase around for awhile and the ache in the trapezius will let you know where it is. To learn what the deltoid does, fill a bucket half full of water and hold it at arms length as long as you can.

In aiming with a handgun the trapezius holds the shoulder in position while the deltoid takes the strain of holding the gun. Secondary to the deltoid is a muscle group in the forearm on top that keeps the handgun from tipping downwards. One reason for having a muzzle-heavy handgun is to put a strain on these muscles, since a slight strain makes them easier to control and much steadier.

Why should not a similar strain on the deltoids have the same effect? It would if the deltoids were as strong relatively as the forearm, but even in the sedentary worker we often find strong forearms. The salesman's handshake is well known for its strength. The forearm and the calves are the most used muscles and consequently the hardest and strongest in the average man. But the deltoid is rarely used over its full range and that is why work that takes the hands overhead is so tiring. As an experiment, time yourself in holding your favorite handgun in aiming position. Then time yourself to find out how long you can hold the gun in aiming position with the arm bent as it would be if shooting from the hip, taking the strain away from the deltoid. A few minutes will suffice for the first position but the forearm can hold the gun horizontally for a half hour is need be. This little test ought to show the main difficulty the handgun shooter has to overcome in building up muscular strength and performance of the deltoids.

How to make these muscles stronger? Well, whole books have been written on the subject and there are several magazines published that go into the matter rather thoroughly but a few hints here can be studied and a course of action decided upon. If you live in a town of any size, there should be a YMCA gym and swimming pool available. The crawl stroke gives these muscles excellent exercise and if you are of an athletic turn of mind a workout with the weights is good. If there is a weightlifting instructor handy, tell him you are interested in developing the deltoid muscles. He'll probably try to persuade you to go in for weightlifting in a big way, but you don't need to do that. A few exercises for the muscles over a period of several weeks will help. Or you can invest in a chest expander and workout three or four times a week with it. This apparatus is convenient and handy and makes no noise and it's peculiarity is that almost all of the exercises performed with it involve the deltoids.

Apart from dry snapping, which is mainly an exercise in control, there is another that I tried and found beneficial. For it I went back to ancient history. It seems that during training the Roman soldiers carried packs double in weight to those used in the field. They also trained with heavy shields and swords to build up strength in their arms, and also to give them endurance. If you will make a lead replica of a Colt .45 automatic (whittle one out of wood for a pattern and make a mold out of plaster of paris), you can use it in the same way the Romans did and will find your actual gun feels like the proverbial feather. If you have an old relic of a shotgun, fill the barrel with lead and do some dry practice with it. The usefulness of these two suggestions lies in the fact that you will be training the muscles in exactly the same manner as they are used in actual work with guns, and in addition to the strength and endurance gained, coordination is also helped. ♦ ♦ ♦

THE SPOTTING SCOPE --

Columbia Pictures has scheduled for release in 1949 a shooting movie filmed in Florida last month featuring top-ranking rifle, pistol, and skeet stars. . . . The film, a "World of Sport" short narrated by Bill Stern, will appear in 6,000 U. S. movie houses beginning in March . . . which should be the signal for NRA members to request it at their neighborhood theatres. . . . Lost with the assistant DCM, Lt. Col. Eugene Hicker, on a plane flight to Newfoundland in November (see page 52) was well-known Canadian smallarms expert Maj. H.L. Forsythe, on duty with Army Ordnance research and development on loan from the Canadian Government. . . . As long as it's for the good of shooting it isn't competition: In this case, G. Charter Harrison's excellent little magazine, The Gun Collector, which appears 'at irregular intervals' and caters exclusively to the old gun collector. . . . Subscribers get an average of twelve issues a year . . . including a monograph or two on major groups of American firearms. Last month: Derringer pistols. . . . If you're interested, the price is four dollars a year and the address: 110 Vaughn Court, Madison 5, Wisconsin.

The National Skeet Shooting Association, in existence barely two years since its rejuvenation, is now looking for a permanent home . . . will move its offices from Washington and look for a layout similar to that of the ATA at Vandalia, Ohio. . . . Five cities are now under consideration . . . Maj. John W. (Jack) Hession, recently retired as shooting-promotion manager of Winchester-Western, is still in circulation . . . Jack, who can vie with Remington's Frank Kahrs for length of service in the shooting game, is vice-president of Dockendorff & Co., of Oronoque, Connecticut . . . . The retirement of Kahrs, incidentally, was announced by Remington effective December 1 . . . climaxing a career which began in 1898, when, at 15, Kahrs joined the staff or Shooting and Fishing . . . the magazine which later became The American Rifleman.

Peacetime use for jet propulsion . . . The Fish and Wildlife Service disclosed recently that the RF-80 jet-propelled airplane, carrying a special 'strip' camera in its nose, is being used over the 'grasslands' section of California's San Joaquin Valley . . . to count ducks. . . . The jet, streaking more than 400 miles per hour at an altitude of only 300 feet, zooms past the waterfowl before they are aware of the engine roar . . . whereas ordinary planes, with blaring engine noises in advance of the craft, frighten birds off the ground and into flight to escape the count of the biologist. . . . Col. T. F. Wessels has been transferred from the office of Director of Civilian Marksmanship to Camp Gordon, Georgia, as camp Executive Officer. . . . New DCM is Col. James F. Strain, formerly Chief of Weapons Section of the Infantry School, Chief of Weapons of the Officer's Candidate School in France during World War II, and Camp Perry veteran. . . . The Army's choice to replace Col. Wessels could not have been better in view of Col. Strain's interest and administrative ability.

Add foreign shooting clubs. . . . A junior club charter has been issued by NRA to the Rift Valley Academy, a boarding school for European children operated by the Africa Inland Mission in Kijabe, Kenya Colony, Africa. . . . U. S. and British occupation troops are shooting against each other in Austria . . . in competition. . . . In a recent match (with British arms) the British avenged a previous beating (with U. S. weapons) by the Americans. . . . First, one-legged Wayne Moore wins the National Rifle Championship two years running . . . now, Alfred Ronstadt, currently hailing from Mexico, matches it by taking a second place in the National Skeet Championships . . . shooting with one arm off above the elbow. . . . Bob Perkins, of Fresno, California, who has twice come within a hair's breadth of taking the National Rifle Championship back to the West Coast, has now blossomed out as a junior club instructor . . . guiding the newly-formed Roosevelt High School 'Deadeyes', of Fresno. . . . Police interest in organized junior target-shooting groups is boomeranging . . . with the latest to take steps being Chief Cyrille Leblanc of the Gardner, Massachusetts, Police Department. ♦♦♦

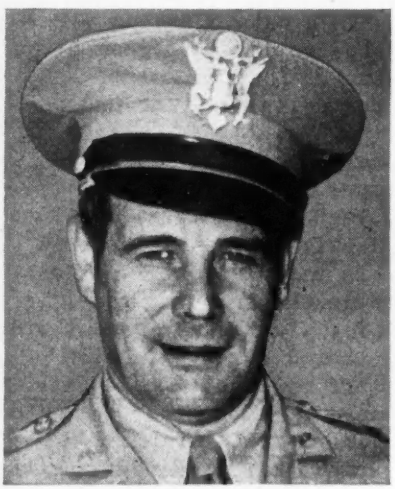
Ray Stann

Lt. Col. Gene Hicker, Asst. DCM, Missing In Army Plane; Jake Engbrecht Dies

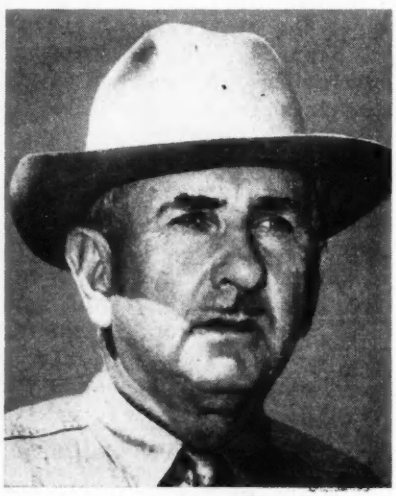
As noted briefly in December, Lt. Colonel Eugene S. Hicker, Assistant Director of Civilian Marksmanship, was a passenger on a B-25 bomber which failed to reach its destination on a flight, November 5, from Washington, D. C., to Argentia, Newfoundland.

As the plane neared its destination the field was closed in by fog and ground-controlled approach procedure was started, but during the process the plane's radio failed.

With only an hour's gas left the plane is presumed to have made an attempt to reach the field at Gander Lake, some eighty miles to the northward. Under conditions of fog and darkness, this effort evidently failed. Nothing has been heard of the plane since, although it was the object of an exceptionally extensive search by air-rescue units.



Lt. Col. 'Gene' S. Hicker



Jake Engbrecht

Colonel Hicker was born in Washington State on August 23, 1901, and was graduated from the University of Washington in 1927 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He was appointed 2nd Lieutenant, Infantry Reserve, March 8, 1927, and was called to active duty in 1939. The outbreak of World War II found him in the Philippine Islands where he participated in the Bataan Peninsula campaign and was captured by the Japs. He endured the Death March and as a prisoner of war was a passenger on a Japanese ship which was bombed by our own planes, during which a number of American prisoners were killed.

Colonel Hicker was an enthusiastic rifleman and before the War had earned a considerable reputation as a .30-caliber competition shot.

After his return from Japan in 1945 he was appointed Assistant Director of Civilian Marksmanship, and in this capacity he made many friends throughout the National Rifle Association by his aggressive and effective efforts to obtain from the War Department the maximum possible benefit for NRA members.

On June 19, 1947, Colonel Hicker received a permanent commission in the Regular Army, and continued his duties as Assistant Director of Civilian Marksmanship.

J. J. ENGBRECHT

One of the great pistol shooters of all time turned in his squadding tickets when J. J. "Jake" Engbrecht died at his Crestline, California, cabin on November 15, 1948.

"Jake," who was 56 at the time of his death, probably won more big time matches than any living shooter and powered the Los Angeles Police Pistol Team to many championships and national records. He fired on the U. S. International Pistol Team as far back as 1933 and showed newer shooters he was still hard to handle by winning the National Individual at Camp Perry in 1946, his last big tournament before retiring from the Department.

In addition to his prowess with the hand gun, "Jake" was famed for his sportsmanship and fair play. A big, quiet, good natured guy, he had been known on several occasions to challenge his own scores when he thought them too high.

REPORT ON 1948

1948 saw all records of the NRA's Club Activities Division completely shattered. In all fields—junior and senior clubs, newly organized clubs, competitive events, match entries, classified shooters—new marks were established.

The rolls of the Association at the end of the year included well over sixty-five hundred affiliated senior and junior clubs. More than two thousand were Class-A senior groups and a little over fifteen hundred fell into the senior Class-B category. The twenty-eight hundred junior groups were represented by seven hundred secondary schools, about the same number of chartered summer camps, two hundred colleges and universities, and the rest scattered among veteran's organizations, Boy Scout troops, private clubs, etc. Of the total number of all clubs nearly fourteen hundred were organized during 1948.

The club picture also took on an international aspect. In addition to groups in the United States, clubs were chartered in Hawaii, the Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Trinidad, Canada, Japan and Germany.

In all, over five hundred registered tournaments were staged in '48. Twelve thousand rifle shooters and fifty-six hundred pistoleers held NRA classification cards, and some twelve hundred teams competed in the Association's outdoor and gallery league championships.

The juniors kept gun barrels just as hot. Last spring sixty teams competed in the National Intercollegiate Rifle Championships and four hundred junior teams fired in the National Junior Championships. A few months later over two hundred and twenty-five teams fired for the 1948 summer camp title. Finally, nearly one hundred and twenty-five juniors received individual qualification ratings during the year.

C. G. SWEBILIUS DIES

Carl Gustave Swebilius, noted firearms inventor, manufacturer, and vice president of the High Standard Manufacturing Corporation, died in the New Haven, Conn., Hospital on October 18, 1948.

Mr. Swebilius, of New Haven, was born 69 years ago in the village of Vingaker in Sodermanland, Sweden, and came to this country in 1896. He began his career as a barrel diller in the Marlin Firearms Company, and was in charge of the experimental work in that factory when World War I began. The Army at that time was in urgent need of an aircraft machine gun that could by synchronized to shoot between the propeller blades of an airplane. Mr. Swebilius developed the Marlin aircraft gun, which was mounted in an American DH-4 plane equipped with a Liberty motor and tested in actual operation in Europe. The test resulted in the large-scale manufacture of these guns, approximately 39,000 of which were used in World War I. The present Chief of the NRA Technical Division, General Hatcher, then in charge of machine gun and small arms design in the War Department, was closely in touch with Mr. Swebilius about the work.

In 1926 Mr. Swebilius, in company with Mr. Gustave A. Beck, formed a partnership under the name of the High Standard Manufacturing Company. In the original plant, a small building on East Street, New Haven, they started operation by making drills. The business grew rapidly and soon went into the field of firearms. During World War II the company manufactured large quantities of .50 caliber machine guns in addition to a large volume of smaller firearms and parts.

Mr. Swebilius is survived by two sons, Gordon Swebilius and Earl B. Swebilius.

DATES FOR JUNIOR AND INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Because many clubs now sponsor special junior tournaments which they will not want to conflict with the NRA annual Junior Championships, notice is called to the fact that the date set for the Junior Championships is Saturday, March 19, 1949. Better circle that date on your calendar!

College shooters will compete for top national honors on Saturday, April 9, 1949.

Charles Cornish Defeats Perkins in West Coast Smallbore; Other Tournaments

Charles W. Cornish led the field in the two-day **PACIFIC STATES FALL SMALLBORE RIFLE ROUND-UP CHAMPIONSHIP** which was conducted by the Los Angeles Rifle and Revolver Club on November 13-14. Cornish fired a total aggregate score of 3190 out of a possible 3200. Perennial Pacific Coast winner, Robert E. Perkins, finished in an unaccustomed second place slot with 3189, followed by John O. Miller at 3185. Seventy-year-old Clarence F. Backstand asounded younger shooters at the tournament by firing a 400-36x over the fifty-yard any-sight course after firing two full days of competition.

☆ ☆ ☆

Robert O. Sinclaire, well known figure in small bore rifle tournaments throughout the country, won first place in the **FLORIDA WEST COAST SMALLBORE RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP,** sponsored by the Clearwater Rifle Club on November 13 and 14. Sinclaire compiled a winning aggregate score of 3179-213x by firing a total of 1587-101x with the iron sights and 1592-112x in the any sight events. Cecil H. Kelly of Rockwood, Tennessee, was second with 3165 and Raymond A. Mapes, of Clearwater, Florida, rounded out the first three with 3165.

☆ ☆ ☆

The feature of the **GUNNERS CLUB FINAL OUTDOOR TOURNAMENT** on its range at Hicksville, Long Island, was a special match between the Center Archers Women's Team and a pistol team composed of men. The archers team lost to the pistol shooters 1926 to 2212. The women, all archery champions, were Helen Van der Koegal, Charlotte Cashner, Dot Budd and Patricia Brown, all of Long Island. Major Phil Roettinger, Bill Peterson, Lt. George Scott and Sgt. Jack Sheehan, Nassau County Police, made up the men's pistol team. The course of fire consisted of sixty shots per team member at 30 yards with 30 rounds being fired on the Army L Pistol Target and 30 rounds fired on the standard archery target. The archers were handicapped by the sudden cold weather and the noise made by the pistol shooting. In the regular rifle competition William Schweitzer took the grand aggregate match with a score of 1196-87x's. Otto Kolb placed second at 1196-73's. Elinor Dunn fired 200-19x over the 50-yard Metallic Sight course to establish a new women's record. The previous record was held by Elsie Helwig of New Haven, Conn., fired in 1938.

☆ ☆ ☆

Willis B. Miller won the **McMINNVILLE RIFLE CLUB'S** annual Gallery Rifle Tournament on November 7, 1948 at McMinnville, Oregon with a total aggregate score of 871 out of a possible 900 points. Al Rogers of Newberg, Oregon, placed second with 866 and W. R. Manley, of Hillsboro, third, with 851.

☆ ☆ ☆

Emmett E. Jones of Los Angeles, California won the Winter Pistol Tournament sponsored by the **77th STREET DIVISION GUN CLUB** on November 7. He compiled a winning 860 out of a possible 900 points by firing 292 with the .22, 293 with the .38 and 275 with the .45. Don Millican, of Manhattan Beach, Calif. was second, thirteen points behind at 847.

DCM CLUB NOTES

Recently, all clubs enrolled with the Office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship were sent necessary blank forms for rendering the 1948 annual inventory of U. S. Property (SAODM Forms 13 or 13A) and the 1948 annual report of firing (SAODM Form 29 or ODCM Form 29A). *All* reports from *all* clubs should be in the Director's office not later than December 31, 1948.

If supplies for the coming year are desired, requests for such issues should accompany annual reports. However, no supplies will be approved for issue until the 1948 annual inventory and 1948 annual report of firing have been received and *accepted* by the DCM. If your club receives a letter from the Director regarding a discrepancy on either of these reports, answer that letter *immediately*. As stated before, no supplies will be issued to your club *until your reports are accepted*. It is to your own advantage, therefore, to reply to the DCM without delay.

As soon as possible after receipt of your correct reports, approval for the desired issues will be sent to a shipping depot provided your club is currently affiliated with the National Rifle Association.

Attention—Prior to the issue of supplies to your club for the coming year, the annual reports mentioned above and your *1949* affiliation with the National Rifle Association must be recorded in the office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship.

Special: Ammunition—There is no more .22 *short* ammunition available for issue. The supply of .22 long rifle ammunition is insufficient to permit the issue of this type of ammunition to senior clubs; also, junior clubs will be issued 250 rounds instead of the authorized 400 rounds per firing member. The 1949 issue of .22 and .30 caliber ammunition will be based upon the number of members reported as having fired one of the required courses for record, *not* upon the total club membership, as formerly. This report of the number of firing members will be made on your annual report of firing.

Do not confuse the annual report of firing with your *report of qualifications* made by members firing the required course. The report of qualifications may be sent in at any time during the year on ODCM Form 2A, 2B or 2C. Report of qualifications is not mandatory but the Director of Civilian Marksmanship will issue appropriate badges or credit for all such qualifications reported.

Answer promptly all correspondence from the Director of Civilian Marksmanship. It is the desire of that office to assist clubs but cooperation on the part of the clubs is necessary.

Keep the Director of Civilian Marksmanship informed of all changes in names and addresses of club officials.

Clubs and COMPETITORS

Apparently we overlooked someone in the list of national smallbore rifle records in the November RIFLEMAN. The record for the four-man team, metallic sight Dewar course is held by the Glendale Shooting Club of St. Louis, with a score of 1593-105x, instead of the National Capitol Rifle and Pistol Club, of Washington, D. C., with a score of 1591-94x, shown in the published list.

Another record for the four-man team, any-sight Dewar Course, was established by the Wilmo Rifle Club in the Ohio State Team Matches at Mt. Gilead, Ohio, on October 10. The new record score: 1598-98x.

The record score of a four-man team over the Camp Perry Pistol Course with .22 caliber handguns is held by the Los Angeles Police, which scored 1187 in the 2nd Annual Western States Pistol Championships in Los Angeles, Calif., on Sept. 18, 1948. This record was not included in the recently published list of outdoor records.

☆ ☆ ☆

The U. S. Ordnance Department has decided to withdraw all rifles, caliber .22, Remington M513T, from service for certain modifications. These rifles were made to commercial standards for civilian use, and will be altered to meet present military training needs. The Director of Civilian Marksmanship has been authorized to return all rifles of this model now in the hands of rifle clubs and schools and to requisition replacements for them. This exchange will be made without cost to clubs and schools.

Instructions covering the exchange were sent to all clubs in December. These instructions covered method of shipment, point to which rifles were to be shipped, and necessary forms to be filled out to secure replacement. The instructions should be complied with by all clubs without delay to insure prompt replacement of the rifles.

☆ ☆ ☆

Shooters firing in the 1948-49 NRA Gallery League Program will be classified much faster than previously. Instead of waiting until the end of the season to report scores for classification to the NRA, league secretaries will send classification scores to the NRA immediately after each league match is fired. A new form, which has been distributed to league secretaries, is used both as a match bulletin and as a classification score reporting sheet. Under the system a league shooter who completes the number of scores required for classification, whether the scores are fired in registered tournaments or registered leagues, will receive his classification card from the NRA within a few days.

☆ ☆ ☆

The new DCM smallbore qualification course has been published in Changes No. 3 to Army Basic Field Manual, FM 23-5, July 30, 1943. Firing is at 50 feet on the official 50-foot smallbore target. The targets may be requisitioned from the office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship. New forms for report of qualification and full instructions for firing the new course are being prepared for mailing at all clubs concerned.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES

The 1949 issue of the Outdoor Rifle and Pistol Registered Tournament Schedule will be published by the National Rifle Association on April 1, 1949. The schedule will list all registered rifle and pistol tournaments for which dates have been applied by March 1, 1949. The schedule will be mailed automatically to all registered tournament competitors, club secretaries, official referees, and tournament sponsors. They will be available to all other NRA members on request.

In order for sponsors to have their tournament listed, it will be necessary for them to apply for dates prior to March 1, 1949. The NRA will mail applications to all club secretaries and previous tournament sponsors. The sponsors in turn will fill out applications with desired dates and have then back in Washington by March 1. It will not be necessary for the proposed program to accompany the application, but, where possible, it will be desirable in order to assist the NRA in giving tournaments final approval.

After publication of the schedule the RIFLEMAN will carry only state, district and regional championships in the Coming Events.

NEW COMPETITION CUP

The NRA takes great pleasure in announcing the Mayleigh Challenge Cup has been presented for competition in the International Pistol Matches by the pistol shooters of Great Britain. The cup is a sterling silver trophy that stands 22 inches high and was donated by Mr. G. W. Cafferata of Newark, England. This year the United States International Pistol Team again won the match with a team score of 1809 while Canada placed second, with 1716,

MAYLEIGH CHALLENGE CUP

followed by England with 1664. These were the only teams competing. The match is fired on a postal basis with the ten U. S. team members and two alternates being chosen from the competitors qualifying during the firing of the National Championships.

NRA DIRECTORS

As members know, Directors of the NRA are elected to represent every area of the country and each interest within the shooting game. Here, for the information of members, is a list of current Directors showing the organization or interest which each represents. Names preceded by a black dot are persons newly elected to Directorship.

PACIFIC COAST REGION:

E. J. Dutil, San Francisco, Calif. ('49)
Range Master, San Francisco Police Dept.
L. A. Pope, Los Angeles, Calif. ('50)
Pres., Los Angeles Rifle & Rev. Culb
K. J. Voorhees, San Diego, Calif. ('51)
Pres., Associated Gun Clubs of Los Angeles ('51)
Russell Wisler, San Francisco, Calif. ('51)
Sec, Calif. Rifle & Pistol Ass'n.

EASTERN REGION:

Col. Joe Bush, Fortress Monroe, Va. ('49)
Training Sec, AGF
Frank T. Parsons, Jr. Wash. D. C. ('49)
Coach, George Washington U. Rifle Team
Rear Adm. M. C. Mumma, Berryville, Va. ('49)
Comdr. L. H. Morine, Wash., D. C. ('49)
Chief Military Moral Div., USCG
Lt. Col. Walter Walsh, Arlington, Va. ('49)
Officer in Charge Target Practice Sec. USMC
Harry L. Palmer, Scotia, N. Y. ('49)
V.P. Schenectady County Pistol Ass'n.
Comdr. Carl E. Bull, FPO New York, N. Y. ('49)
H. L. Gau, Joppa, Md. ('50)
D. B. Hilliker, Kenmore, N. Y. ('50)
Chief Instr. Buffalo R. & R. Club, Inc.
H. J. E. Reid, Hampton, Va. ('50)
Lt. Col. J. C. Mauk, Harrisburg, Penna. ('50)
Ass't Supt, Penna State Police
C. B. Lister, Wash., D. C. ('50)
Executive Director, NRA
R. K. Stritzinger, Scarsdale, N. Y. ('50)
F. C. Mills, New York, N. Y. ('50)
Nat'l Dir. Scouting Service B. S. A.
• Lt. Col. Glenn C. Funk, Wash., D. C. ('50)
Ord. Officer Plans & Training Sec., USMC
• Col. James F. Strain, Wash., D. C. ('51)
Director of Civilian Marksmanship
• C. R. Sterbutzel, Connelsville, Pa. ('51)
Pres, Pa. State R. & P. Assn.
Major Gen. M. A. Reckord, Baltimore, Md. ('49)
Executive Vice-Pres., NRA
• James Affleck, Pittsburgh, Pa. ('51)
• Chas. J. Code, Hollidaysburg, Pa. ('51)
V.P. Penna. Rifle & Pistol Assn.
Frank J. Kahrs, Bridgeport, Conn. ('50)
Rifle Promotion Mgr. Remington Arms Co.
Carl E. Kastner, Maplewood, N. J. ('49)
Sec, Assoc. R. & P. Clubs of N. J.

NORTHEASTERN REGION:

Major Gen. M. A. Edson, Montpelier, Vt. ('50)
Director of Public Safety
• P. H. Teachout, East Burke, Vt. ('51)
Sec. Vt. State R. & P. Assn.
P. D. Andrews, Syracuse, N. Y. ('51)
Past Sec-Treas, Schenectady GEAA Rifle Club

SOUTHEASTERN REGION:

Mark Cooper, Rome, Georgia ('49)
Rome Rifle and Pistol Club
J. Alvin Badeaux, Thibodeaux, La. ('49)
V.P. La. State Rifle & Pistol Assn.
• C. A. Brown, Tampa, Fla. ('51)
Sec-Treas, Fla. Police Pistol League
• L. W. Abrams, Clearwater, Fla. ('51)
Sec, Clearwater Rifle Club
• W. Owen Keller, Frankfort, Ky. ('51)
Assistant Adjutant Gen.

MID-WESTERN REGION:

E. N. Littleton, Bowling Green, Ohio ('49)
Pres, Ohio State Rifle Assn.
Marvin D. Driver, Detroit, Mich. ('49)
Inspector Detroit Police Dept.
Samuel Bond, New Philadelphia, Ohio ('49)
Trustee, Ohio State Rifle & Pistol Assn.
Raymond C. Bracken, Columbus, Ohio ('50)
Wallace H. Davis, Highland Park, Ill. ('50)
Don R. Gillies, Detroit, Mich. ('50)
Outdoor Editor, *Detroit Times*
Wilbur L. Withrow, Springfield, Ill. ('51)
Inst, Springfield YMCA Rifle Club
• O. R. Landet, Anaconda, Mont. ('51)
Treas, Anaconda Rifle & Pistol Club

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David P. Sugden, Salt Lake City, Utah ('50)
Sec, Utah State R. & P. Assn.
Walter Siewert, Custer, S. Dak. ('50)
Sec. Custer R. & P. Club
Byron Engle, Kansas City, Mo. ('50)
Chief, Police Training Sec.
E. O. Swanson, Minneapolis, Minn. ('51)
President, NRA
Harry D. Linn, Des Moines, Iowa ('51)
Sec, Dept. of Agriculture
J. J. Ring, Wauwatosa, Wis. ('51)
Pres, Wis. State Rifle Assn.
• C. L. Wilson, Lincoln, Nebr. ('51)
Comm. Game, Forestation & Parks, Nebr.

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Nat'l Dir, American Legion Marksmanship
Lloyd Markle, Denver, Colo. ('49)
Sec. Colo. State R. & P. Assn.

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Capt. Walter Day, Seattle, Wash. ('49)
Ex. Off, Seattle Police Ath. Ass'n.
H. O. Schofield, Tacoma, Wash. ('49)
Pres, Wash. State Rifle Ass'n.
• Stuart C. Edmonds, Portland, Ore. ('51)
Columbia Willamette Rifle League
• C. M. Styer, Seattle, Wash. ('51)
Sec. Wash. State Rifle Ass'n.

SOUTHWESTERN REGION:

A. L. Meloche, Phoenix, Ariz. ('49)
Chief Instr, Sahuro Rod & Gun Club
Major Gen. K. L. Berry, Austin, Texas ('50)
Adjutant Gen, State of Texas
• George R. Whittington, Amarillo, Texas ('51)
Pres, Texas State Rifle & Pistol Ass'n.

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Elkhart, Indiana
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Medico-Dental Bldg.,
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Northeastern.....E. F. Bridgman
116 Elm Street
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STOLEN GUNS

Colt "Woodsman," serial number 51787. T. W. McKinley, 507 Juniper Lane, Ravenwood, Falls Church, Va.

.25 Colt Automatic, serial number 371912; .32 Colt Automatic, serial number 453594. Cecil M. Hampton, 26 Throckmorton St., Freehold, New Jersey.

Match-Target Woodsman, serial number MT7871. Earlton Smith, 2800-2802 Guadalupe St., Austin, Texas.

Remington Model 31, #96195; Two Winchester Model 61, #105536-105238; Model 70 Winchester rifle, #78079; Belgium Browning Automatic #251013; Stevens .22-410 over and under. Russell T. Wing, Mgr., Williamsburg Hardware Co., Williamsburg, Va.

.45 Rem. Gov't Auto., serial #038782, M 1911A1 stamped (U. S. Property). Cpl. E. J. Callahan, USA, 39 W. Honsatonic St., Pittsfield, Mass.

COMING EVENTS

Regional Championship Tournaments (Class A) and State or Division Championships (Class B) only are listed below. All other N.R.A. Registered Tournaments are listed in a printed schedule that will be sent to any shooter upon request. Send your request by letter or penny postcard to the National Rifle Association, Competitions Section, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Tournaments requiring advance entries are indicated by (Adv.). Tournaments limiting the number of entries that can be accepted are indicated by (Ltd.).

Always write to the tournament sponsor for a program in advance of any Registered Tournament you plan to attend. It is your assurance that you will know all of the details and the tournament conditions.

JANUARY

15-16 (B) NEBRASKA—Tri-State Gallery Rifle Championships. Lawrence H. Verry, 229 North Lake Street, Chadron, Nebraska (Adv-Ltd)
22-23 (B) MONTANA—Montana State Gallery Pistol Championships. Dr. Robert E. Englert, 1405 4th Avenue North, Great Falls, Montana (Adv-Ltd)
29-30 (B) NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK—Eastern Seaboard Indoor Pistol Championship. Peter B. Payne, Box 75, Scotch Plains, New Jersey

FEBRUARY

19-20 (B) OHIO—Ohio State Gallery Rifle Tournament. John R. Lang, 3498 Meadow Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio (Adv)

MARCH

8-12 (A) FLORIDA—National Mid-Winter Small Bore Rifle Tournament. Neil Cocking, 780 24th Avenue, St. Petersburg, Florida
12-13 (B) NEW YORK—Tenth Annual Indoor Niagara Frontier Small Bore Rifle Tournament. Andrew S. Kreitner, 175 North Street, Buffalo, New York (Adv-Ltd)
12-13 (B) ILLINOIS—Annual Mid-West Gallery Rifle Tournament. Stanley L. Peterson, 5643 South Whipple Street, Chicago 32, Illinois
13 (B) OHIO—Twenty-first Annual Ohio Championship. Lt. A. L. Schmieg, 368 East Kanawha Avenue, Worthington, Ohio (Adv)
15-19 (A) FLORIDA—National Mid-Winter Pistol Matches. C. A. Brown, Box 253, Tampa, Florida (Adv-Ltd)
19-20 (B) ILLINOIS—Annual Mid-West Gallery Rifle Tournament. Stanley L. Peterson, 5643 South Whipple Street, Chicago 32, Illinois
19-20 (B) MONTANA—Montana State Gallery Rifle Championship. E. L. Shoemaker, 2010 8th Avenue North, Great Falls, Montana (Adv-Ltd)
20 (B) WASHINGTON—Washington State Gallery Rifle Championship. C. M. Styer, 120 West Hudson Street, Seattle 4, Washington (Adv-Ltd)
22-25 (B) FLORIDA—1949 Annual Flamingo Pistol Tournament. Clement L. Theed, P. O. Box 363, Coconut Grove, Miami, Florida
24-27 (B) CALIFORNIA—Second Annual Desert Cavalcade International Pistol Tournament. Mrs. Margaret Poindexter, 146 South 6th, El Centro, California (Adv-Ltd)
26-27 (B) INDIANA—Indiana State Gallery Rifle Championship. Indiana State Rifle Association, Building 115, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana
26-27 (B) IDAHO—Annual Idaho State Gallery Pistol Tournament. Orville C. Lauge, R. F. D. #1, Kimberly, Idaho
26-27 (B) IDAHO—Annual Idaho State Gallery Rifle Tournament. Orville C. Lauge, R. F. D. #1, Kimberly, Idaho (Ltd)

APRIL

1-2 (B) OHIO—North Central Ohio Gallery Rifle Tournament. Clarence R. Hassinger, 352½ West 4th Street, Mansfield, Ohio (Adv-Ltd)
2-3 (B) CALIFORNIA—Pacific Coast Small Bore Championship. Gladys Rising, 600 North Mayo Avenue, Compton, California (Adv-Ltd)
10 (B) WYOMING—Central Wyoming and Wyoming State Championship. Vance Leeper, Box 56, Douglas, Wyoming
24 (B) OREGON—Oregon State Gallery Rifle Championship. Willis B. Miller, 1432 Liberty Street, Portland 11, Oregon (Adv-Ltd)
23-24 (B) KANSAS—Kansas State Gallery Rifle Championships. F. H. Budden, 1219 Houston, Manhattan, Kansas
23-24 (B) PENNSYLVANIA—Pennsylvania State Gallery Pistol Championship. W. H. Reithmiller, 606 Forest Avenue, Pittsburgh 2, Pennsylvania (Adv)
24 (B) OHIO—Ohio State Gallery Team Matches. John R. Lang, 3498 Meadow Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio (Adv)

MAY

21-22 (B) KENTUCKY—Outdoor Rifle Tournament. Harry M. Wheat, 4633 South First Street, Louisville, Kentucky
28-29 (B) WASHINGTON, D. C.—Twelfth Precinct Pistol Tournament. A. M. Guelig, 1732 Capital Avenue, N. E. #2, Washington, D. C. (Adv-Ltd)

JUNE

13-14 (B) KENTUCKY—Outdoor Pistol Tournament. Harry M. Wheat, 4633 South First Street, Louisville, Kentucky

JULY

10 (B) TENNESSEE—Tennessee State Pistol Championship. Frank B. Hill, 2902 Snowden Road, Nashville 4, Tennessee (Adv)

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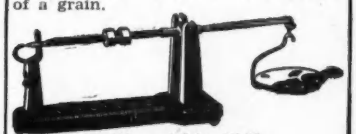

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Cal.	SIERRA BULLETS	Dia.	Gr. Wt.	Per C
30	S.Pt. Spitzer	.308"	150	$4.50
30	S.Pt. Spitzer	.308"	180	4.75
22	S.Pt. Spitzer	.224"	45, 50, 55	2.75
22	S.Pt. Rd. Nose	.224"	50	2.75
22	S.Pt. Hornet	.223" or .224"	45	2.25

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.270 or .30-'06? • Examples of Carelessness • Home-made Rear Sight • More on Sheepskin and Rust • Unusual Mauser Pistol • Browning Patents • Double-Action 'Frontier' • Chinese Pistols • 8 mm. French Revolver Loads • Zinc Alloy Bullet Metal • Reduced Load Problems • Chambering Tools • Pistol Primers in Rifle Loads • IMR 4895 Powder • Primer Catcher • Rugged Decapping Pin • 4 mm. Subcaliber Ammo

.270 OR .30-'06?

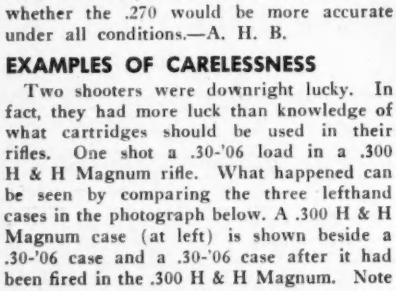
Is the .270 Winchester superior in accuracy at long estimated ranges to the .30-'06? If properly handloaded will it do as efficient work on deer and elk? Do you consider it a better caliber for a man who hunts this game and also likes to get a chuck which keeps well out of the way, as well as uses his gun on the target range?

Also can you give me .270 loading dope with No. 4350 powder.—C. A. ELWOOD, Goldendale, Washington.

Answer: The .270 Winchester is a very popular caliber, especially for long-range shooting on light game, not including moose and the heavier species. One reason for popularity is flat trajectory and adequate killing power. As an all-around caliber up to moose, probably there is nothing to duplicate the .270 Winchester. You can get around 2850 foot-seconds or better using 52.5 grains of No. 4350 with a 150-grain bullet; you can get between 3000 and 3100 foot-seconds using 56 to 56.5 grains of No. 4350 and 130-grain bullets, or 51 grains of No. 4320 powder. With a 100-grain bullet and 54.5 grains of No. 4320 you can get around 3300 foot-seconds velocity at a very safe pressure level. When it comes to accuracy, a good .270 should stay right along with a .30-'06, but it is debatable as to whether the .270 would be more accurate under all conditions.—A. H. B.

EXAMPLES OF CARELESSNESS

Two shooters were downright lucky. In fact, they had more luck than knowledge of what cartridges should be used in their rifles. One shot a .30-'06 load in a .300 H & H Magnum rifle. What happened can be seen by comparing the three lefthand cases in the photograph below. A .300 H & H Magnum case (at left) is shown beside a .30-'06 case and a .30-'06 case after it had been fired in the .300 H & H Magnum. Note



Cases at right in two groups of three above show dangerous expansion which resulted when small cases in center were fired in rifles chambered for larger cases at left

the expansion (about .044 inch) of the .30-'06 load fired in the wrong rifle.

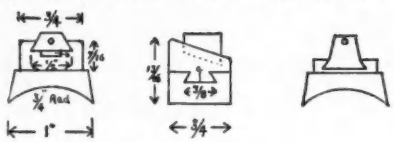
Another shooter fired a .300 Savage cartridge in a Jap 7.7 mm. rifle. The 7.7 mm. case is shown at left in the three righthand cases, the .300 Savage case is next to it, and the .300 Savage case which was fired in the 7.7 mm. rifle is at right. Note the difference in shoulder-to-head length of the 7.7 mm. case and the .300 Savage case, and imagine what effect that difference can have on headspace.

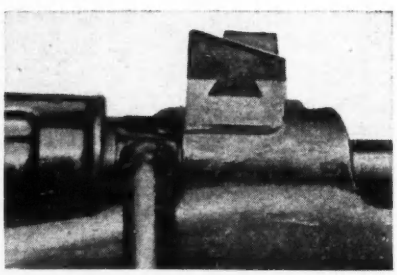
Had either one of the cases let go in firing, the shooter would probably have blamed the rifle or the ammunition for the accident. —A. H. B.

HOME-MADE REAR SIGHT

The average sporting peep sight leaves much to be desired in the way of ruggedness. It is very disappointing after a lot of hard work to find that your sight is bumped out of line and your hunting trip ruined.

After some heart-breaking experiences with the conventional peep sight, I have evolved a little sight of my own which has proved satisfactory. It has no parts sticking out to catch in every branch, no arms to get bent, threads to come loose, or screw





Home-made rear sight (working drawings at top) which is made solid, with no adjustments to loosen

adjustments to be fiddled with by half-wits who should know better.

The photo and the drawings give a pretty good idea of the general lay-out. The whole thing can be made with a hacksaw and a few files. The only hole to drill is the peep. The base, shaped to fit the rifle, should be carefully fitted so that it contacts all over. This part is sweated on and, if done properly, will stand all the pounding you can give it in the field. The dove-tail groove is filed into the top half of the base, and the ramp bottom dovetail made a firm driving fit. The line marked 'a' in the drawing is a slot cut in the dovetail to allow a slight amount of spring, or if you make the fit a bit too loose, you can spread the slot with a cold chisel. The top dovetail is filed into the ramp and the peep block fitted. If this block gets a bit slack with use, it can be tightened by squeezing the ramp in a vice. The corners of the ramp should be rounded off both on top and sides.

The left drawing shows the sight from the rear end, the center from the side, and the right from the front. The small rectangular piece marked 'b' is a groove filed into the bottom of the ramp to allow you to see the peep when the sight is at the lower end of its adjustment. This groove is on the same plane as the sight line and runs out to nothing at the front end of the ramp block.

The whole thing should be case-hardened and blued. The sight is adjusted with a small brass punch and hammer and once sighted in will stay put. The hardest of field use will not affect it.—J. S. LOWE, Christchurch, New Zealand.

MORE ON SHEEPSKIN AND RUST

If your valuable rifles and handguns are 'safely' stored in sheepskin cases, it might pay to check on their present condition, particularly if the cases were purchased during or immediately after the war. The reason for the warning is the fact that several gun owners have reported severe rusting of good pieces stored in this manner. In at least one instance, the sheepskin case was definitely held responsible because weapons stored in the same cabinet, but not cased, showed no sign of corrosion.

An investigation has shown that only certain types of shearling leather can cause such expensive losses. The rusting is caused by corrosive residue left in the skin by certain modern tanning processes. One is so-called 'alum tanning,' a poor method for most leather purposes and definitely unsuited for gun case leather. Excessive salt remains will continue to accumulate moisture for long periods. Alum tanning is probably responsible if your case exudes tiny droplets of liquid. This process finishes the leather in a white color, but of course it may be dyed.

Another example of mineral tanning is the 'chrome' process which is used by the large tanneries in the manufacture of hydraulic packing leather which must meet strict government specifications. The Army and Navy contracts require that not more than two percent of free chlorides or sulphates be left in the leather. To meet this demand the salts which remain as a result of using chromium sulphate are eliminated by a long and thorough washing with non-chlorinated water. However, no strict regulatory specifications have been established for gun case leathers and it is impossible to know what salt content is present in your 'chrome' leather rifle case. Consequently, the chrome tanned leather is not considered as being suitable for gun covers at the present time.

Color is of little help in the identification of tanning processes, since chrome leather finishes green but may be bleached white, dyed, or surfaced white with titanium. The last condition may be detected by cutting through to the green leather.

The best leather for gun storage is vegetable or bark-tanned shearling, which never finishes white but takes a fawn or light-brown color. No undesirable salts remain from the use of this older method, and gun cases made from bark-tanned leather will offer considerable protection to sporting firearms. Of course the skin is not absolutely waterproof, but the fleece soon picks up rust inhibitor from the weapon itself and from them on it will protect against rust as well as mechanical abuse.—J. S. R.

UNUSUAL MAUSER PISTOL

NRA Member R. S. Eddy, of Camp Holabird, Maryland, recently left with us for examination a Mauser pistol (upper right in accompanying photograph). The gun is chembered for the powerful 9 mm. Luger cartridge. For comparison, a Czech .380 or 9 mm. short pistol is shown at the lower left. A strong resemblance between the two pistols will be noted. When the pistols are taken

Czech 9 mm. Model 1924 Mauser (lower left) resembles German Mauser, never built in quantity, which is chambered for 9 mm. Luger

down, the construction of both is found to be identical. The breech is locked to the barrel and is released by a turning motion of the barrel which occurs during recoil.

We are told that this Mauser model was being readied for manufacture at the end of World War I but was never made in quantity because of requirements of the Versaille Treaty. We are told that there were only 25 samples made, of which the one illustrated is an example. While the Germans were prevented from making the pistol, the Czechs took the design and used it in their well-known .380, officially called the 9 mm. Model of 1924.

The gun weighs 29½ ounces empty and has a 4⅛-inch barrel with 6 grooves of right-hand twist. It is 7¼ inches long overall and 5⅝ inches high. It has fixed sights 5-1/16 inches apart. The rear sight has a U notch and the front sight is a square-topped blade. Magazine capacity is 9 shots. There is no magazine safety.—J. S. H.

BROWNING PATENTS

My article on Browning's pistols in the November RIFLEMAN stated that Browning's first pistol patent was issued in 1897. Along comes a letter from L. P. Cedarholm of Hayward, Calif., stating that he has one of the first 1900 model Colt pistols and that the magazines (two of them) are stamped "Pat'd Sept. 9, 1884."

Charlie Haven, co-author with Frank Belden of *A History of the Colt Revolver* tells me that Patent No. 304,712 was issued on that date to Louis D. Diss, assigned to E. Remington & Sons, Ilion, New York. This patent covers detachable metal magazines as an improvement on the Remington-Lee type, chiefly in the cartridge-retaining lips and the method of manufacture by folding the sheet metal around from the front and joining it at the back. Browning and Colt used these patents on the magazine, and early magazines were stamped with this patent date until expiration in 1901. Before the Model 1902 pistol appeared, this stamping had been abandoned. Hope that this will clear up the mystery for our collector friends. —PHIL SHARPE, Fairfield, Pennsylvania.

DOUBLE-ACTION "FRONTIER"

An advertisement in the RIFLEMAN under For Sale read in part "D. A. Frontier 7½". I am wondering if there is such a gun or whether the gun is a double-action Army with a Frontier barrel. I did not know there was any Frontier model except the single action, but I know there are several persons who advertise double-action Frontiers for sale.—C. MALTPRESS, China Lake, Cal.

Answer: Although it was never as famous as the single-action Army, the double-action Frontier was the first heavy duty double-action revolver manufactured by Colt. Made from 1877 to 1905, it was patterned after the old single-action, except for the grip which had the birdshead shape. The weapon was produced for .38-40, .44-40, and .45 Colt cartridges and the available barrel lengths included 3.5, 4, 4.75, 5.5 and 7.5 inch models. The Army version had the long barrel and was equipped with a conventional ring on the butt.—J. S. R.

CHINESE PISTOLS

We have recently seen several very crudely made pocket-sized pistols that are chambered for the 7.63 mm. Mauser cartridge and made with a straight blowback action. Shown here are photographs of two which were sent in by Mr. Fred A. Datig, Jr., of Beverly Hills, California. Regarding the gun in upper photograph, Mr. Datig writes: "I have a pistol which looks like a .32 pocket Mauser of 1910, but which is about twice as big and very heavy, takes down like the .32 Mauser, but employs the 7.63 mm. Mauser cartridge. It is a plain blowback and is inscribed 'HGZABSXISAZG-IXSGSBI' over the number 2206. It is quite crude."

The gun in the other photograph has

Crude handmade Chinese pistol resembles .32 caliber Mauser of 1910 but is chambered for 7.63 Mauser cartridge and is almost twice as large

Another handmade Chinese pistol which has dummy rear leaf sight carved out of solid metal of the receiver that is not adjustable

a dummy leaf rear sight on top of the receiver, just above the magazine. The sight is made to imitate closely the folding leaf of the Mauser-type pistol, the difference being that this leaf does not fold. It has the range graduations on it but there is no way to use them as it is carved out of the solid metal of the receiver. The gun carries long and meaningless strings of numerals at various points on the receiver, slide, barrel, and other parts.

These two pistols are handmade Chinese guns. They are quite typical of several others we have seen and any one of them would be extremely dangerous to fire.—J. S. H.

8 MM. FRENCH REVOLVER LOADS

Sometime ago I advertised for sale a French revolver Model 1892 8 mm. Reglementaire *with ammunition.* I got so many replies from men who had similar guns but no cartridges that I thought possibly a load I worked up before the war might be of interest to others. It consisted of cases, semi-rimmed, for the .32 Winchester auto rifle cut to the same length as the French cases and loaded with small pistol primers. The load was 2.5 grains Bullseye and Ideal bullet No. 32359 sized to .325 inch. I understand that .32-20 cases may be used, but I haven't tried them. The load is pleasant to shoot and quite accurate. As a matter of fact, I like this gun very much, though the sights could be improved.—LESTER H. SELLERS, Radnor, Penna.

Answer: The .32-20 case, which is more readily obtainable than the .32 Winchester self-loader, can be used in the M1892 revolver when shortened to 1.06 inch. Both the .32 Winchester self-loader and the .32-20 cases are slightly smaller in diameter than the 8 mm. Lebel so they will expand noticeably near the head, but they are safe with light loads. The Lebel bullet is about .330-inch diameter so bullets larger than .325 inch may be even more accurate.—A. H. B.

ZINC-ALLOY BULLET METAL

I've read several good articles, in the RIFLEMAN on zinc bullet casting. Following the advice of the authors, I've cast quite a few bullets, good and bad. The thing I'd like to tell that the others left out is—the cheap and practical method of getting a good zinc alloy.

A wealth of it can be found in old carbureters, fuel pumps, windshield wiper motors, flywheels from small engines, etc. It's our old friend sometimes called 'pot metal'. I got so enthused that I collected a half bushel of the stuff and would have to live 200 years to make that many bullets. —S/SGT. ELLARD K. DUTILLY, Keesler Field, Miss.

Answer: Some ten years ago we tried making bullets from die cast metal and found that the material varied considerably in composition and melting point, some of it taking up to 1150 degrees F. to melt.

We consider the source of zinc alloy bullet metal you mention worth a trial. With the knowledge that the material may be quite variable, plus a little care in selection, it should be possible to get good results at little expense.—J. S. H.

CORRECTION

A typographical error in the cold bluing formula on page 63 of the RIFLEMAN, September 1948, calls for an excessive quantity of nitric acid. The formula should read "1 ounce" of nitric acid instead of 11 ounces.

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R-2 Lovell
.219 Zipper
.219 Imp'd Zipper
.219 Donaldson Wasp
22 Varminter
.220 Swift; 22 Arrow
22 Gebby Baby Var.
22 Gebby Jr. Var.
22 Gebby Sr. Var.
.240 Gebby Super Var.
.240 Gebby Super Bltd
25-20 Repeater
.25-35; 25 Rem.
.250-3000 Savage
.256 Newton
.257 Roberts
.257 Imp.
6.5 Man.-Sch.
.256 Jap Ariska
.270 Winchester
.280 Ross
7 m/m Mauser
7X57 Rim Mauser
7X64 Mauser
7.7 m/m Jap
30-30; 30-06
30-40 Krag
30 M1 Carbine
30 Remington
.300 Savage
.300 H&H Magnum
30 Newton
.303 British
32-20 Winchester
32 Win. Spl.
8 m/m Mauser
8X57 Rim Mauser
8.15X46R
32-40; .348 Win.
35 Whelen
35 Remington
35 Newton
9 m/m Rifle
9.3X62
.375 Magnum
38-40 Rifle
38-55; .401 Win.
.405 Winchester
45-70; 45-90
.218 Bee CCC.
.219 Zipper CCC.
.220 Swift CCC
22 Varminter CCC.
22 H.P. CCC.
22-06 CCC.
22 Magnum CCC.
.250 Savage CCC
.257 Roberts CCC
25 Krag CCC
25-06 CCC
25 Magnum CCC
.270 Win. CCC
27 Magnum CCC
7 m/m-06 CCC
7 m/m Mag. CCC
30-40 CCC
30-06 CCC
.300 H&H CCC
.348 CCC
.375-06 CCC
.375 Mag. CCC

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.32 Colt Auto.
.380 Colt Auto.
.32 S&W Rev.
7.65 Luger
7.63 Mauser
32 S&W Spl.
32-20 Revolver
.357 Magnum
38 S&W
38 S&W Spl.
38 ACP Super
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38-40 Revolver
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44-40
45 ACP
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REDUCED LOAD PROBLEMS

In attempting to load reduced loads, my cases size themselves in the chamber of the gun to such an extent that each time I fired a lot of cases I could figure on a ten percent loss. The loads that I developed, 42 grains of No. 4064 and 42 grains of No. 4895 in .30-'06 cases behind the M1 bullet, gave minute-of-angle groups with iron sights. However, the cases shortened the first time they were fired, and beginning with the second reloading I had to throw away about ten percent each time they were reloaded. The cases would be so short the primers would protrude and the case could not be fitted in the decapping die. I kept increasing the load until now I load up to 46 grains of Nos. 4895 and 4064, which is not exactly a reduced load and which I hesitated to meter with my B. & M. powder measure. I have had no trouble with this load, whether measured or weighed. Briefly, I have not been able to load reduced loads with progressive burning powder.

I read so much about other fellows shooting many rounds of reduced loads that I know they must get good case life on reduced loads. It has occured to me that, with the difference of powder, the quick-burning powder might keep the case from resizing itself in the chamber and that is now my specific question.—WILLIAM S. EDMONDS, Kemmerer, Wyoming.

Answer: It is unfortunate that you are having such a problem with your fired cases. For some unknown reason I experience very little trouble from the cases shortening when using reduced loads. I am reasonably certain, however, that a quicker-burning powder and somewhat lighter loads with lead bullets will not cause as much trouble as you are now having.

I can only make a guess as to why some shooters have so much trouble and others practically none with light loads. It would seem reasonable to me that if you have a heavy extractor which holds the cartridge back to the face of the bolt, then the case is not apt to be driven forward so much due to primer pressure. In your case it would probably be worth a new extractor merely to find out, although that may turn out to be a haphazard guess. I imagine you would be willing to try anything within reason at this stage of the game.

I recently fired some reduced loads in .270 caliber and experienced no case shortening at all. The loads I was using, with gas-check bullets, developed around 1700 foot-seconds velocity using 16 grain of Du Pont No. 4759 and 19 grains of No. 4198 with a bullet weighing 104 grains. I did use the Winchester No. 115 primer and in many of my handloads I used the F. A. 70 or a corrosive type primer.—A. H. B.

CHAMBERING TOOLS

The H&M Tool Company, 250 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale, Mich., makes nice-looking high-speed steel chambering reamers in complete sets for many popular calibers, including some wildcats such as the .219 Donaldson-Wasp. The set consists of rough, finish, and throating reamers. Those we have seen were very well finished.

Another specialty is headspace gauges. These are also made for various calibers. We have found the Go, No-Go, and Field gauges quite useful for checking headspace in 8 mm. military rifles.—A. H. B.

PISTOL PRIMERS IN RIFLE LOADS

Can I use *large pistol primers* for my 8 mm. reduced loads, up to a maximum of 2000 foot-seconds muzzle velocity?—IRVING FISCHER, Bronx 59, N. Y.

Answer: I have not had an opportunity to try out these combinations thoroughly in all calibers for a first-hand reply to your question, but there would be no harm whatsoever in trying large pistol primers in your 8 mm. cases for reduced loads. It may be you will get punctured primers if you try to get as much as 2000 foot-seconds velocity, but if you wear shooting glasses there would be no danger in experimenting with these primers with reduced loads. They may work well and again they may not.—A. H. B.

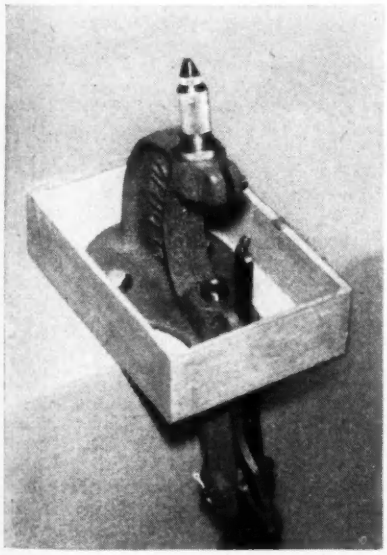
IMR 4895 POWDER

We are continually being asked for IMR 4895 loading data for most all calibers. Specific loads cannot be recommended, as too much depends on the lot number of this powder and there are only two lots for which we have definite information. Lot No. 27277 definitely has burning characteristics similar to IMR 3031 and should be loaded accordingly. Lot No. 2186 is slower burning and we find it almost identical to IMR 4064 in burning characteristics. We cannot furnish specific information on other lots of this powder.—A. H. B.

PRIMER CATCHER

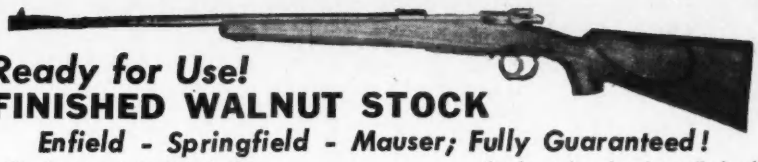
The box-like affair illustrated is a simple and successful attempt to provide a receptacle for decapped primers. While this was designed strictly for the Pacific Tool, similar fixtures can be made for other tools.

For raw materials, only a cigar box is necessary, and the only requirement need



Cigar box around Pacific reloading tool catches primers removed during decapping operation

be that it is both long and wide enough. While dimensions of the cutout could probably be given, it is advisable that it be fitted for the individual tool. Simply set the tool onto a sheet of cardboard and draw around, then cut out the pattern. Some trouble may be experienced with that portion of the tool which houses the shell holder, but



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These stocks are not factory production run but are hand inletted and hand finished. Metal is fit to wood at all important points of inletting. Stocks are of first quality walnut, air dried and then kiln dried to a moisture content of 7% or less.

These stocks are designed in accordance with soundest stocking principles by a master craftsman and feature a forearm with correct proportion for an issue barrel, a well-placed pistol grip and a full cheekpiece for a right handed shooter. Completely sanded. Bacite butt plate and pistol grip cap attached. These stocks afford rifle range accuracy, plus appearance for the gun rack and light weight practicability for the field.

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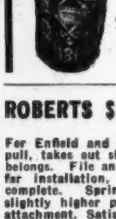

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Quantity Discounts to Gunsmiths and Dealers
ROBERTS GUN SHOP *Complete Conversion Service* ● 205 N. E. 6th Ave. Camas, Washington

BORESIGHT YOUR RIFLE
Send for "BORESIGHTER" to sight in your rifle with amazing accuracy WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT! Lever, slide or auto action rifles require Bore Mirror (bolt action does not).
BORESIGHTERS (specify caliber) $1.00
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Price List of hard-to-find gun tools sent on request
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SATURN "SCOUT SCOPE"

CHECK ANY DRAWTUBE WITH THESE SPECIFICATIONS
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- 6 first quality lenses fully corrected coated optics
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LARGEST OBJECTIVE LENS IN ITS CLASS - - 44 mm!
HERE'S THE REAL PERFORMER IN DRAWTUBES

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Better optics mean more brilliance on dull days. G. O. Johnson, NRA instructor says "comparing it . . . it can't be beat." Other experts say "you'd have to pay $40 for something better." See your dealer —or order from factory; money back guarantee.
The larger lens means greater brilliance

by the cut-and-try method a good fit can be had. After a good-fitting pattern has been made, transfer it to the bottom of the cigar box, trace around and cut out.

To facilitate removal of the used primers, a small hole is cut in the side of the box. Into this can be forced a cork or it can be closed by a hinged wooden flap.

A coat of paint helps the appearance of the gadget, which will stop practically all primers and keep them off the floor. With a close fit, the box will not require any fasteners but will hold to the tool itself.—HARRY WANDRUS, Milwaukee, Wisc.

RUGGED DECAPPING PIN

Here is my suggestion for decapping crimped primers (see RIFLEMAN, September 1948, page 62). First get a package of the plain thick phonograph needles that sell at these inflated times for 15¢. Take a ¼-inch or 3/16 inch rod and drill a small hole in the center of one end, put acid and a drop of solder in the hole, and while the solder is still molten place the sharp end of the needle in the hole so that the end protrudes ⅜ inch. Hold straight until the solder sets and you have a punch that will knock out hundreds of the tough primers. A 51 drill is just the right size for a drive fit on these needles. These are installed on all the primer stakes I have made; so far I have had no complaints. Phonograph needles are made of the best steel and heat treated to the closest standards.—NED KISSIG, Camptonville, Calif.

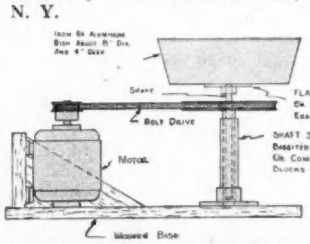
4 MM. SUBCALIBER AMMO AVAILABLE

In the Dope Bag, December 1948, on page 73, we described 4 mm. subcaliber cartridges and stated that while they were available before the war through importers we knew of no present source of supply. Since that was written we have learned that these small cartridges can be obtained through Philip Jay Medicus, 18 Fletcher St., New York 7, New York.

Medicus also has several other hard-to-get numbers in imported factory loads. Items on hand at this writing include: 7 x 57 rimmed; 8 x 50 rimmed Steyr Austrian Model 1895; 8 x 57 JR (rimmed); 8 x 57 rimmed Mauser, 124-grain Varmint; 8 x 46 rimmed; 8 x 60 rimmed; 9.3 x 72 rimmed; and 9.3 x 74 rimmed.—J. S. H.

USEFUL DEVICE

The simple and easily made device illustrated below is used to polish and remove rust from small, irregularly shaped objects. The dish, which should be driven at 100 to 200 rpm's, is filled half full with sand or emery powder, depending upon the nature of the work. The part to be cleaned is held in the grinding material while the dish rotates and is shifted about from time to time until all surfaces have been reached by the sand or powder.—R. C. ROETGER, New City, N. Y.



Device for use in removing rust from small parts.

NEW PRODUCTS

'Marty' clip holder, designed to hold compressed the follower springs in Woodsman and Hi-Standard pistols while cartridges are loaded, is being sold for $2.50 by the Southwest Cutlery & Mfg. Co., Inc., of 1307 Olympic Blvd., Montebello, California. With some new clips there may be difficulty in getting the cartridges to drop flat on the follower when the spring is compressed. Usually this trouble can be cured by spreading the base of the lips on the clip with a screwdriver. With the aid of the 'Marty' clip holder, when the clip is properly adjusted, it can be loaded in about 15 seconds.

☆ ☆ ☆

Handloaders Handbook, published by Belding & Mull, Philipsburg, Pennsylvania, in new edition includes some features not in the old one, specifically a table of bullet seating depths on page 91 and a table of cartridge case lengths on page 92. Also, a few loads are given for IMR Powders No. 4759 and No. 4350. A discussion of the new Du Pont Pistol powder P-5066, which replaces Pistol Powder No. 5, and IMR No. 4895 rifle powder can be found on page 119.

☆ ☆ ☆

Abrasives Kit for smoothing up the rifle action is available from Art Weaver, 335 Russell Blvd., Davis, California, for $2. After reading the series of articles, "DCM Treasure" by T. B. Gresham, Mr. Weaver went to work on his action. He had considerable difficulty in obtaining the specified abrasives. After he found what he wanted, it was necessary to buy larger quantities than the job required. The idea struck him that others must be running into the same trouble, so he bought a large supply and has made up abrasive kits which he is selling. The package contains nine different abrasives suitable for doing a fine job on the rifle action.

☆ ☆ ☆

"Harts 77" gun oils in two grades are being sold by Chemical Specialties, Inc., P. O. Box 1253, Oakland, California. The oils are bottled in handy 2 oz. bottles with one-inch neoprene tube and neoprene thumb depressor tops for squirting the oil. One oil, referred to as 'Handy Oil—High Speed', is light and penetrating for lubrication purposes. The other, 'Gun Oil', is designed for cleaning and lubricating as well as preserving the gun from rust. 'Handy Oil' sells for 25¢ , and 'Gun Oil' for 35¢ per bottle.

☆ ☆ ☆

A stock finish and a rust preventive, two new products by Lyle Batchelder, 17-A Elm Street, Lancaster, New Hampshire, are scheduled to be on the market January 1. The stock finish, a dark heavy viscous liquid, is first applied in three thin coats. Then the stock is hung up for 24 hours, after which it is rubbed down with the finest emery cloth. The finish is then applied again, generously, to the stock, and it is ready for rubbing or buffing to a high finish. One 4 oz. bottle will finish two stocks. The product is known as 'L&V Quicksheen.'

The rust preventive is a thick, colorless liquid, with an odor like mothballs, which is claimed to be harmless to bluing. The article to be protected is dried and a coating then applied.

Ever since its introduction, the WEAVER-SCOPE Model K4 has received the close attention of experts throughout the country. For long range shooting, its hard-coated lenses give needed brilliance of definition. See the sturdy, accurate Weaver K4 at your dealer's today.

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for Colt, Woodsman and Hi Standard automatics. This fine accessory HOLDS clip open while you load. Chrome plated with chain and ring—list price $2.50. Send for free circular.
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$3.50—$7.50—$12.50
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Cartridge Case Trimmers—
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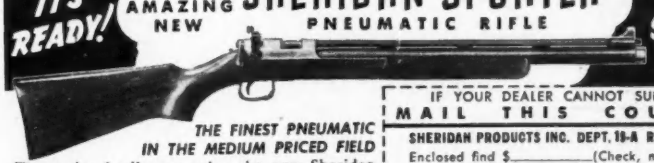
Send 6¢ in stamps for latest circulars.
L. E. WILSON
Cashmere **Wash.**

IT'S READY! THE AMAZING NEW **SHERIDAN "SPORTER"** PNEUMATIC RIFLE *ONLY* **$35.00**



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The entire family can enjoy the new Sheridan "Sporter." Its safe, quiet, non-recoil pneumatic operation is ideal for family use. Its amazing accuracy and velocities are praised by expert riflemen. Here's a full-sized, sturdy, reliable small-bore that pays for itself by using low-cost ammunition. The "Sporter" has all the important features and identical action of the world-famous Sheridan "Super-Grade." Sold through leading Dealers.
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Enclosed find $_____(Check, money order). Send me items checked. (Money-back if not satisfied upon inspection.)
☐ Sheridan "Sporter" Pneumatic Rifle, $35.00.
☐ _____rounds of Ammunition, $2.00 per 500.
☐ Send me free data and photo of the "Sporter."
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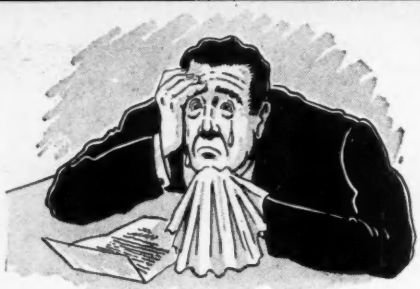


DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED

NOW is the time to order that *particular* gun, scope or camera for maximum enjoyment of your sport during the New Year. Don't be disappointed as were many sportsmen last year because they delayed ordering.

Many items of shooting equipment are still scarce. It will probably be many months before certain popular guns, such as the Winchester M/70, Remington 721's and 722's and the Savage M/99 EG, will be immediately available.

To assure priority in delivery of the equipment you want, we suggest you place your order now, accompanied by a deposit.

Send us a list of the items you need and we will let you know what we can do. We will then enter your order for delivery at the earliest possible date. You can pay additional amounts if you like and also get it all back on request if you get tired of waiting.

●

NOTE: All target rifles, handguns and binoculars as currently manufactured are available for immediate delivery on our Time Payment Plan—25% with order, balance in five equal monthly payments.

827 14th ST. N.W. **PARKER-WHELEN CO., INC.** WASH. 5, D.C.

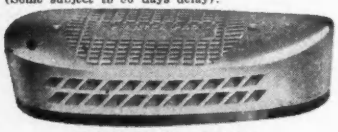
Dept. R

POINTER STOCKS

Molded plastic in ivory, walnut or ebony for old model Colt Woodsman, all .22 Hi-Standards. Colt and S&W Revolver Models. Colt .45 Auto. $6.50 per pair up. We are originators of plastic thumb rest stocks.

POINTER PUPS

Plastic imitation stag **without** thumb rest for most of the above models $4.00 pr. **We also have without** thumb rest **genuine** Pearl, Ivory, Stag and Walnut stocks for most models. (Some subject to 30 days delay).



POINTER PADS

A new design recoil absorber, finest quality, three styles—two sizes—three colors. $3.25 each. Direct, if not at your dealer's.

Clear Sight Scope Lens Caps

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Optical glass lens and Neoprene bodies protect scope lens from excessive or hurried cleaning, oil, moisture, dust, shocks, scratches. For all popular hunting scopes—$2.95 pr. Direct if not at your dealer's. **Free Illustrated Circulars**

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NEW! BANTA BULLET DIES

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Immediate Delivery

M. G. S. BULLETS IN ALL CALIBERS & WEIGHTS

Write for descriptive folders and price list

TOM VAN DE CAR
"Sportsmen's Service"
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS

New Crosman air rifle, the 'Town and Country', is a bolt-action single-shot, rifled with six grooves, being placed on the market by the Crosman Arms Company, 15 Henrietta Street, Rochester 7, New York. Overall length of the rifle is 36-7/8 inches with barrel measuring 20-3/16 inches. The stock is walnut finish, with the forearm hinged to serve as a pump lever. The rifle is priced at $24.95.

☆ ☆ ☆

Shooting Stick, very handsomely made with a hollow metal shaft and a rubber-covered handle with wrist strap, is being sold by the C. & R. Shooting Stick Company, 2409 W. Brooklyn Avenue, Dallas, Texas. Inside of the stick is a one-piece 35½-inch cleaning rod having a .187-inch diameter. Two and three-quarter inches up from the sharp point is a 1.75-inch metal disk to prevent the stick from sinking too far into the ground, making it closely resemble a ski pole.

☆ ☆ ☆

Safety Speed Holster, in appearance, is of conventional type. On attempting to pull the pistol or revolver from the holster, however, it will be discovered that something is slightly irregular—the gun won't come out. In order to remove the weapon, it is necessary to press a concealed button that is handily located as the finger reaches for the trigger. On release, the hinged side of the holster swings open, permitting the user to swing the gun out and to the front instead of drawing it.

Six models are available, with prices of $13.50 and $14.50, from Firearms International Corporation, 1526 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Deer Call sold by Sport Lore Company, 970-A Forest, Denver 7, Colorado, is likely to be the first of its kind on the American market. The idea of attracting deer with the sound of a vibrating reed is not new to Alaskan natives, but it may be to most hunters in the United States.

While the bulky Alaskan product was made of cedar, the modern version consists of less than 4 inches of bright red plastic and rubber 'reed'. When blown, it produces a sound not unlike that of a deer's 'whistle' or 'bugle'.

The device retails at $2 and is accompanied by an interesting instructional booklet.

☆ ☆ ☆

Pressed horn butt plates and grip caps are now available from Roy Vail, Warwick, New York. Of three samples of Vail's pressed buffalo horn butt plates we received, one has a fine checkering design, another a basket weave design, and the third horizontal grooves over about 2½ inches of the center section of the plate. These are clean jobs in jet black. A pistol grip cap, also in jet black, is of conventional design.

☆ ☆ ☆

Hooded saddle scabbard for scope-mounted rifles, by King-Moore Leather Goods Co., 7034 North Figueroa St., Los Angeles, Calif., is handsomely made of heavyweight russett leather with a smooth hard finish. The manufacturer says the lining is made from an electrified process sheepskin which closely resembles fur. The case has a hood of the same material as the scabbard, fastened to the scabbard by means of adjustable straps. Scabbard is designed to protect the rifle from rough usage, rain, or dusty conditions. Price is $36.00.

Another beautiful gun in our series of the work of America's finest custom gun makers. L. M. BROWNELL, Sheridan, Wyoming. Equipped, of course, with the BUEHLER MOUNT and SAFETY.

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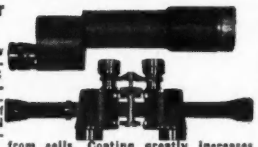
(More details of BUEHLER equipment in our classified ad on page 93)

HOT & COLD HARDCOAT

For Your Optics



Our new ELEC-TRONIC process permits hard-coating of SPUN-IN lenses without removal from cells. Coating greatly increases light transmission, definition, and reduces glare. Write for details. Have your rifle scope, spotting scope, binoculars and CAMERA optics improved 20% to 50%.

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Easy Sighting...

Insure your shots with a MERIT IRIS SHUTTER EYE PIECE. Your choice of "12" click adjusted apertures instantly changed to suit your own vision . . . While Aiming . . . you get clear definition right now! $3.50 for Most Peep Sights . . . Models for hunting or target shooting.

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A real production unit . . . $9.00 F.O.B. No dippers . . . No slag . . . Perfect pressure cast bullets! 400 to 500 per hour with single cavity mould. Shipping weight 9 lbs. Write today for complete illustrated folder to Dept. R-1.

MERIT GUNSIGHT CO.
6144 MONADNOCK WAY OAKLAND 5, CALIF.

Crow Shooter's Kit consisting of a decoy great-horned owl with mounting equipment, two crows, and crow call has recently been offered by the Starling Pest Control Co., 1775 N. Main St., Decatur, Illinois.

In an effort to duplicate an owl's ability to constantly face its circling audience, the 14-inch decoy has been designed with a front view on both sides which accounts for its name, the "S & S Two-Faced Owl". The cast-aluminum owl is finished with luminous glass eyes, and a coat of brown wool-and-rayon flocks which may be cleaned with soap and water. A needlepoint 11-inch threaded stump spike permits instant mounting of the owl atop fence posts or stumps.

With two 16-inch black fibre crows and the well-known Olt call, the set retails at $15.00.

☆ ☆ ☆

I. R. X. Lenstick is a mist preventive for lenses made up like a lipstick, convenient for carrying in the handbag or pocket. In addition to preventing bothersome mist on the lenses of your glasses, it acts as a cleaner. We have tried it and can report that it does a commendable job. It is applied by marking a very light circle on each lens surface, about ¼ of an inch from the edge, with the point of the stick. Then polish the lens with a soft clean fabric or tissue. The product is put out by the Mist-Proof Products Co., 165 West End Avenue, Brooklyn 29, New York.

☆ ☆ ☆

New air guns soon to be coming off the production line of the Challenger Arms Corp., 2767 West Broadway, Eagle Rock, California, include a rifle (two models), a pistol (two models), and something new and different—a shotgun. The guns are being sold under the trade name 'Plainsman'.

The rifles are Model 22-R (.22 cal.) and Model 177-R (.177 cal.). They retail at $14.95.

Model 22-P (.22 cal.) and Model 177-P (.177 cal.) are the pistol models, retailing at $12.95.

The Model 28-S shotgun (.28 cal.) retails for $14.95.

The rifles and pistols have rifled barrels and shoot either pellets, ball shot, or darts. The three guns are the pump type with a lever under the barrel. On the shotgun and rifles, the lever is part of the fore-arm as on the Sheridan air rifle.

The manufacturers tell us that all movable parts can be replaced by the user if necessary.

☆ ☆ ☆

Pneumatic Sporter rifle will be for sale soon by Sheridan Products, Inc., Racine, Wisconsin, makers of the Sheridan Super-Grade. The Super-Grade was introduced in 1947 and gave excellent performance. We have not received a Sporter for test as yet, but we hope to be able to give first hand information on it very soon. Judging from pictures, it is made along the same lines as the Super-Grade which retails for $56.00. The Sporter will retail at the much lower price of $35.00. The action is reported to be identical with the Super-Grade. The stock and fore-end are of walnut. Sights and trigger pull are adjustable. It will be bored for the 5 mm. (.20 inch) caliber bullets costing $2.00 for 500 rounds.

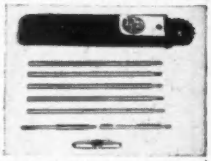
½ PRICE SALE!

"OL' SARGE" CLEANING RODS & OIL

We've taken the mfgr's entire stock and priced it for quick clearance. Order now, for quantities are limited! • Rods are special alloy brass in pocket size sections, all interchangeable, with patented T style swivel handle. Each section is designed for proper cleaning of barrels from revolvers to 36" rifle barrels.

RIFLE & REVOLVER ROD (shown). Jointed rod over all length 36".

#120 for 30 to 45 cal.
were $1.50
NOW 75c



DELUXE CLEANING KIT fitted in handsome hardwood case. 11 pcs. including rod, bronze barrel brush, long stem bristle chamber brush, general purpose brush, gun oil can.

#119 for 22 to 27 cal.
#122 for 30 to 45 cal.
#123-20W for 20 gauge
#124-16W for 16 gauge
were $5.00
NOW $2.50

SHOTGUN ROD — 9 pc. set, including interchangeable brass sections, expanding T style handle and smooth bore brush. In cloth case.

#123-410 for 410 ga.
#123-20 for 20 ga. (jointed rod overall length 31")
#124-16 for 16 ga.
#124-12 for 12 ga. (jointed rod overall length 37")
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"OL' SARGE" GUN OIL — The famous L-1165M, used exclusively by military ordnance division. A superior small arms lubricant and rust preventative. Exceptionally light in viscosity, assures positive lubrication at all temps. to 50° below zero. 2-oz. can was 25c, NOW 2 for 25c

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MODEL H-DM
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This pistol is built to give the highest degree of accuracy. The superb balance combined with the comfortable and natural grip makes it possible to get the full benefit of your ability to score. Automatic Slide Lock. Adjustable Rear Sight. Blued Finish. Genuine Black Walnut Grip.

MODEL H-B
.22 Long Rifle

A high quality, low priced automatic for camper and trapper and for those not requiring a pistol solely for target shooting. Weighs approximately 31 oz. Hard Rubber Grip. Blued Finish.

Both Models furnished with 4½" or 6¾" barrel.

Also Available:
Model G-380 for .380 automatic cartridge.

Place order with your Dealer

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Unchambered, not lapped or threaded, in calibers 22 LR, Hornet, Lovell, 22-250, Swift, 257 Roberts, 250-3000, 270 Winchester, 30 '06, 300 Magnum and .35.

Blanks are furnished unturned or pre-turned, Chrome Moly or Carbon Manganese steel, 1¼" Diam, 27" long.

We have on hand a good supply of blanks, and most orders are being filled promptly as this goes to press.

We do no re-boring, re-lining, wood-work or barrel fitting.

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Enfields, Springfields, Mausers, and Japs, made into Sporting rifles. Single shot Varmint rifles.

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Minute Man ★ GUN BLUE

Instant "Blue Steel" Gun Finish

Not a Paint—Not a Lacquer

MAGIC COLD CHEMICAL Restores finish on 5 Guns. No heating! Can't injure steel. Simple process. Takes minutes.

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GET Free descriptive circular

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Arm 24 New Method Bldg., Bradford, Pa.

FOR SMOOTH TRIGGERS

Use HOPPE'S LUBRICATING OIL

This non-gumming, non-hardening lubricant will impart a new "feel," a new speed and smoothness to your gun actions. Fine also for keeping fishing reels in A-1 condition. Your dealer has it. Helpful "Gun Cleaning Guide" FREE upon request.

Frank A. Hoppe, Inc.

2321 North 8th St., Phila. 33, Pa.

GUNSMITH TRADE DOPE

Driver Equipment Company, 1152 Valencia St., San Francisco 10, Calif., is distributor for excellent double-handled barrel-grooving tools. There are three sizes of hardened cutters in each set, ½, ⅝, and ¾ inch diameter, and all have sharp, fast-cutting edges. For barrel inletting and working around the cheekpiece of a stock, we find these tools very useful and among the best. Chisels and gouges are made to be used in place of the cylindrical barrel-grooving cutters.

☆ ☆ ☆

Fred M. Seguin, 2218 Tower Ave., Superior, Wisconsin, who has done considerable handloading and experimenting, is now ready to do custom loading in both rifle and handgun calibers. His loads for the 8 mm. Mauser, 9 mm. Luger, .38 Super Auto, .38 Special, and .45 A.C.P. are as nice-looking handloads as we have seen. They shoot very well, too. Loads for other popular calibers, including some foreign such as the 8x60 Mauser and 8.15x46, are available.

☆ ☆ ☆

Roberts Gun Shop, 205 N. E. 6th Ave., Camas, Washington, sells for one dollar the Roberts trigger attachment for Mauser and Enfield rifles. These attachments are merely bent strips of thin metal which, when properly placed under the sear, remove the first stage of the military pull. We find these gadgets easy to install on the Mauser and Enfield and they do a good job. A screwdriver and file are the only tools needed for fitting. Similar attachments for Springfield, Krag, and 30 Remington rifles sell at slightly higher prices.

☆ ☆ ☆

E. C. Bishop & Son, Inc., Warsaw, Mo., has added several new stock designs to their regular line. The target stock, although fairly new in this particular design, is already becoming quite popular. The Mannlicher stocks are well designed and the one we worked on turned into a rather attractive rifle. The machine inletting for the latest Bishop stocks is very clean, permitting close inletting without having to remove too much wood. All stock wood is dried thoroughly in rigidly controlled kilns.

☆ ☆ ☆

Bob Dillon, Iowa and Washington Street, Golden, Colorado, is furnishing excellent custom loads in 7x64 mm., 7x57 mm., 8x57 mm., 9x57 mm., 6.5 mm. Jap, 7.7 mm. Jap, and others. Recently we paid a surprise visit to Dillon in his shop at Golden and were much impressed with the careful, conscientious work he is doing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Rig Products Co., Oregon, Ill., has patented a magnifying .22-caliber scoring gauge made of transparent Lucite. This Eze-Scorer was made official at the NRA Executive Committee meeting on June 19, 1948, since the scoring gauge plug and flange dimensions are held to rigid NRA specifications. Russ Wiles tells us that the gauges can all be made to one specification or .2225-inch flange diameter. They are priced at $2.00 each.

Tilden Manufacturing Company, 2750 N. Speer Blvd., Denver, Colorado, manufactures a right-side Mauser safety for use with low-mounted scopes. The safety is installed without tools or alterations to the bolt sleeve. The Tilden safety for Winchester Models 54 and 70 rifles is still one of the most popular for use with low-mounted scopes. We have found the safeties for both Mauser and Winchester rifles to be entirely practical.

☆ ☆ ☆

Rusteprufe Laboratories, Sparta, Wisconsin, has produced a new and improved Rusteprufe with polar qualities, which increases its protective value. The new Rusteprufe has provided rust-free protection for many hours in brine and salt spray tests. Having used Rusteprufe for years, we find it fully as dependable as any of the other first-quality light solvent-oils on the market.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. R. Buhmiller, well-known barrelmaker, has moved shop from Eureka to Kalispell, Montana. Mailing address is P. O. Box 381.

☆ ☆ ☆

Lee's Sportsmans Exchange, 7831 S. Broadway, Los Angeles 3, Calif., is making gunstocks finished up to the point of sanding and oil finish. These stocks are listed as being completely inletted, and they are very close to it. Because of the variations in some rifles, particularly the Mausers, we find that some final scraping and sanding sometimes will be necessary. The outside of the stock we have, of plain straight-grained walnut which seems to be well seasoned, is well shaped, ready for sanding.

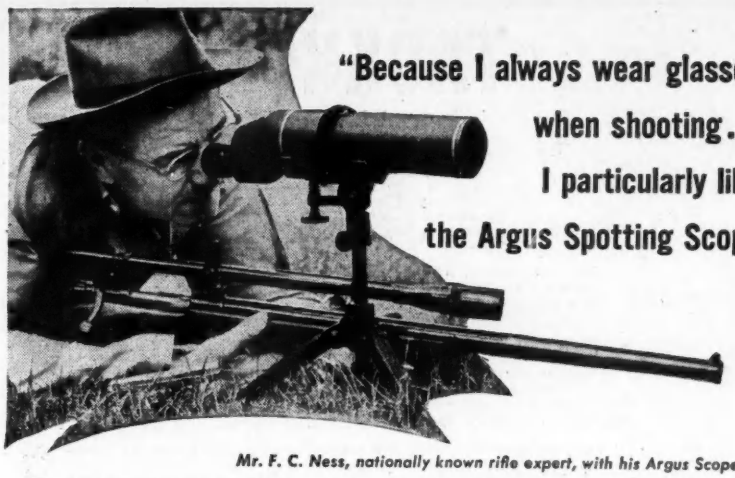
The list price is $18.50. The Mershon Company, 511 E. Broadway, Glendale, Calif., are jobbers for these stocks.

☆ ☆ ☆

Johnson Appliance Company, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, makes a handy gas-fired No. 8 torch with stand, cast iron melting pot, and heat-retaining jacket. The torch may be conveniently connected, using a rubber hose, to any gas outlet, making the unit practical for mixing lead alloys and casting bullets. The torch, available for use with artificial or natural gas, supplies plenty of heat to melt lead, tin, and antimony mixtures. Maximum capacity is twenty pounds. In one short evening we melted and alloyed 120 pounds of bullet metal. Unit price is $13, plus shipping charges.

☆ ☆ ☆

M. L. & M. J. Stith, San Antonio, Texas, have passed on the following: The Unertl Hawk 4X Scope barely fits into the Master Mount. It must be positioned just right, otherwise it will not fit properly in the bases and there will be interference with the locking ring of the eye-piece or the enlarged front end. Also, the mount must have the right side edge of the front base extension beveled so that the scope can be rolled in from the right side instead of pushed in from the rear. All Master Mounts that are going out now have extensions that are beveled on the right side, but the first ones that came out do not have this feature.



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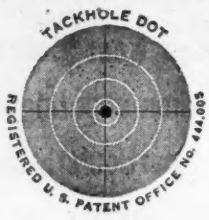

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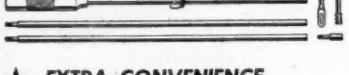

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BOOK REVIEWS

CENTER FIRE METRIC PISTOL AND REVOLVER CARTRIDGES, Volume I of CARTRIDGE IDENTIFICATION

By HENRY P. WHITE and BURTON D. MUNHALL

Here is a well-written, accurate, thoroughly authentic book giving technical data on 132 pistol cartridges. It is illustrated by 211 cuts, including full scale silhouettes of all cartridges of which samples could be obtained and reproductions of catalog cuts of early or obsolete ones no longer available.

The field covered by this volume is much wider than might be inferred on the first reading of the title. The cartridges with metric designations cover all except the American and British types, and in fact include quite a few of them also, since many of our well known pistol cartridges are simply European cartridges with American names, such as, the .25 (6.35 mm.) A.C.P.; the .32 (7.65 mm.) A. C. P.; the .380 (9 mm. Short) A.C.P.; the 7.65 and 9 mm. Luger; the 7.63 mm. Mauser; and others.

The book starts with the tiny 2.7 mm. and 3 mm. Kolibri auto pistol cartridges; the 4 mm. Uebungsmunition; the 4.25 mm. Liliput; and goes on through many familiar and many rare, almost unknown numbers to the enormous 11.5 mm. Montenegrin Gasser and the 15 mm. Revolver C. F.

It is our belief that even the most highly regarded experts will learn something from this book; speaking for ourselves, we freely admit that we were surprised on reading it to find how much of the material presented was new to us.

The book in splendidly indexed and cross-referenced and seems almost unbelievably free from the usual errors that beset authors and publishers today. It is an invaluable reference for students, collectors, and law enforcement agencies, and is the type of book which may be expected to remain the standard in its field for many years since little, if any, further progress in foreign pistol cartridges may now be expected.

This work, an NRA Library Book, has our full and unqualified recommendation.—J.S.H.

(Published by the Sportsman's Press, Washington, D. C. 97 pages, with appendices. Available through the NRA Book Service. Price, $7.50.)

HINTS TO RIFLEMEN

By H. W. S. CLEVELAND

The reprinting of this scarce book is good news for both shooters and collectors. Written during the turbulent days of the Civil War, just as the era of the breechloader was getting under way, this delightful volume reflects the attitude of a veteran rifleman toward the change, and presents an opportunity for discussing both muzzle-loading and breech-loading rifles.

The collector will be particularly interested by the detailed analysis of the various breech-loaders of the period. The claims of

the manufacturers and the testimony of competent examiners are printed at length and compared with the author's own findings. In this way there is gathered together a great deal of what historians fondly call 'primary source material' on Civil War arms and ammunition. .

Shooters and students of firearms will find that the principles laid down for the selection and use of a rifle are as applicable today as they were 84 years ago.

The preparation of this reprint shows considerable taste and good judgment. The format of the 1864 version has been retained throughout. Even the binding is a copy of the original, and the old advertisements for firearms are included. The only change lies in the addition of a reprint of a very rare pamphlet written by the same author in 1861, which is of particular interest because it indicates the manner in which the performance of various arms in combat influenced the author's attitude toward them. —HAROLD L. PETERSON.

(Published by Compton Printing & Engraving Co., Portsmouth, Ohio. Available from Ray Riling, Arms Collector Service, 6844 Gorsten Street, Philadelphia 19, Penna. Edition limited to 500, numbered. Price $5.00.)

SHOTS AT WHITETAILS

By LAWRENCE R. KOLLER

Larry Koller is a fine example of an all-around sportsman—hunter, gunsmith, fly-tyer, taxidermist, fish and wildlife conservationist, and archer—and his book is a fine example of a well-rounded approach to a single problem: How to shoot a whitetail.

His book falls roughly into two parts; the first covers the sport of deer hunting, and the second the mechanics of deer hunting. A fine chapter on the ways of the whitetail gives valuable information on its habits, characteristics, scoring methods, and so on. Woodcraft and whitetails—the art of finding them—leads into a comprehensive chapter on still-hunting, probably the most sporting method of all. Group hunting, driving, and stands; the hunter's camp; and sportsmanship and safety follow. Killing the deer, the vital areas and how to hit them, sighting methods and moving-target shooting naturally precede the chapter on getting the buck out, which includes notes on dressing it. Buck fever, a short chapter on archery, and one on cooking venison wind up the first part.

The second part starts with a discussion of deer weapons and loads. In recommending equipment, Koller sensibly considers the personality of the hunter and his probable reaction to various deer-hunting situations. "Gunwork for the Hunter" is the poorest chapter in the book, and naturally so, for nobody could cover the subject of gunsmithing in 34 pages. The final chapter on mounting the head makes it sound like a fairly easy ten- to twenty-hour job.

Altogether this is a very practical and highly useful book. More drawings of the various techniques discussed would have been helpful. The one major complaint about the book is that it has no index. That is a serious defect in a book of this kind, which works greatly against its use as a reference.—R. G. MCCLOSKEY.

(Published by Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1948. 362 pages, 41 illustrations. Available through NRA Book Service. Price $5.00.)

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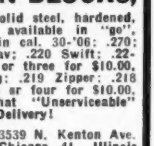

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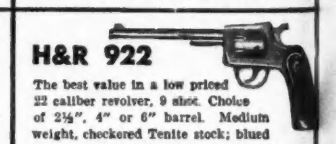

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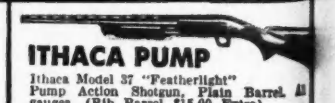

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Kindly sign the following statement, which is in accordance with the regulations of the Federal Firearms Act: "I am not an Alien, and I hereby state that I have never been convicted in any court of the United States or any of its possessions of a crime of violence, nor am I at present under indictment or a fugitive from justice." **(No Guns or Ammo. sold to Minors.)**

SIGNATURE..... OCC..... AGE.....

☐ ENCLOSED IS $..... ☐ CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER
☐ Ship C.O.D. with inspection privilege.
☐ Ship on 10-Day FREE EXAMINATION. At the end of ten days, if I have not already returned the merchandise to you, I will send my remittance in full payment.
☐ Enclosed is 10% (or more) Down. I will pay balance $..... monthly. If ordering on Easy Payments or Free Exam., please state your exact occupation and age. If you work on a farm, order must come from farm owner.
☐ Send FREE [illegible] KLEIN'S SPORTING GOODS Big Bargain Sports

THE ARMS CHEST

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

1. Rate: 25 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $3.00. Advertisements *must be accompanied by remittance*, made payable to "National Rifle Association"—1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C. *Insertion will not be made until payment is received.*

2. Closing Date: All advertisements must be received with advance payment by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: January 1st for the February issue. Ads received after January 1st and not later than February 1st will be inserted in the March issue.)

3. Who May Advertise: Any individual or firm whose advertisements and methods of doing business meet our requirements may advertise their goods or services in the ARMS CHEST.

4. All Orders Subject to These Conditions: We reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

5. Transactions Based on Good Faith: ARMS CHEST transactions are based on good faith and mutual satisfaction. Deliberate misrepresentation, disregard of usual business ethics, or the attempt to circumvent these general requirements, will result in refusal of further advertising and might result in disbarment from the NRA, in the case of members.

6. Blind Ads Not Acceptable: Blind ads, with box numbers *only*, will not be accepted. Give your COMPLETE name and address, to insure prompt delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

7. How to Count Numerals, Etc.: Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000. $150.00. $1.50). Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith; H. B., meaning heavy barrel). Hyphenated words are counted as two words (example: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

8. Responsibility for Illegible Copy: Type or print ads plainly, for we can not be responsible for errors due to illegible writing.

9. Firearms for Sale or Trade Should Be Properly Described: We urgently recommend that the *condition* of every gun (including essential parts) advertised for sale or trade, be clearly indicated in accordance with the following *NRA standard descriptions:* PERFECT—meaning factory condition; EXCELLENT—meaning new condition, implying negligible amount of use; VERY GOOD—meaning practically new condition; implying little use, with no appreciable bore wear and only minor surface scratches or wear; GOOD—meaning moderate use with some finish worn off, only moderate bore wear, with no pits and nothing worse than a little roughness in the bore; FAIR—meaning no parts missing necessary to use of gun, reasonable wear inside and out, nothing worse than minor pits in steel or stock, gun sufficiently accurate for hunting. POOR—meaning marred appearance and pitted or badly worn bore.

We further recommend that when price lists or catalogs are offered, the *condition* of every weapon or item so listed be properly described in accordance with these NRA standards.

WARNING TO PURCHASERS: The National Rifle Association *will accept no responsibility whatever* for *any* unsatisfactory transactions involving guns or other items which have not been described in accordance with the foregoing NRA standards. It is therefore important for purchasers to *insist* that sellers give full and complete descriptions of all items in accordance with these standards—*before* any such transactions are consummated.

10. Privilege of Examination: Requesting shipment by express C. O. D., *with examination privileges* will permit the purchaser to inspect the merchandise *in local express office* and authorizes the express company to return unsatisfactory merchandise at shipper's expense.

11. The National Firearms Act forbids the sale of the following: (*a.*) Full automatic machine guns. (*b.*) Rifles and shotguns with barrels less than 18 inches in length or 16 inches in the case of a weapon of .22 or smaller caliber. (*c.*) Handguns such as the Mauser or Luger automatic pistols, when such weapons are equipped with detachable butt stocks, except that all of the above may be sold by a Federal licensed dealer who has paid the special tax required by Section 3260, Internal Revenue Code. NOTE:—"Barrel length", as it applies to the above, is determined by the insertion of a cleaning rod from the muzzle until it comes to rest against the face of the closed breech.

In addition, the NRA has adopted a policy of not accepting advertisements covering small *pocket* pistols or revolvers of less than .38 caliber, or with barrel lengths of 2 inches or less, which have no practical value as target, police or military weapons.

12. Fair Trade Laws: All states with the exception of Missouri, Texas, Vermont and the District of Columbia have Fair Trade laws which permit manufacturers to contract with their distributors to maintain standard retail prices. Dealers who fail to do so are subject to legal action.

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6 CAVITY MOULDS, .36 or .44 C&B REvolver, unused, $20.00. Serviceable SA Colt Parts:—Mainspring $2.00; hammer $3.25; hand w/spring $2.00; trigger $1.25; gate $1.75; ejector head $1.50; trigger guard $3.00; screws 35¢ each; .45x5½" barrels, pitted, $2.25. 20-shot magazine for .30-06 Springfield $6.75. C&B revolver repair parts. B. K. Wingate, Box 481, Reading, Pa.

70 HORNET, NEW, NEVER FIRED. MINOR scratches stock. With G-88 in Redfield. $158.00. R. J. Herrall, 660 N. Liberty, Salem, Oregon.

RARE OLD COINS. LIST FOR STAMP. J. M. Stroman, Box 80, Estacada, Oregon.

OUT-OF-PAWN, "SHOTGUNS", "RIFLES", "Pistols". Big Savings, write needs, enclose stamp. Virginia Pawnbrokers, Danville, Virginia.

WOODSMAN MATCH TARGET, SANDERson grips, Micrometer click sights, trigger shoe, Heiser holster, very good, $70.00 money order. E. Miller, Roosevelt Road, Lombard, Ill.

BIG CATALOG, ANTIQUE GUNS FOR sale. $1.00. 475 photographs. Satisfaction guaranteed. Gil Hebard, Knoxville, 5, Illinois.

"SHOTGUN" — "RIFLES" — "HANDARMS" —"Ammunition"—"Rods"—"Reels"—List 10¢. Rudolph's, Atchison, Kansas.

PERCUSSION COLT AND REMINGTON parts. Flint and percussion locks. List 25¢. C. H. Weisz, 100 S. Uhle Street, Arlington, Virginia.

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ILLUSTRATED 179 PAGE CATALOG OF antique firearms and edged weapons 50¢. Robert Abels, R-860 Lexington Avenue, New York 21.

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INVENTORS: HUNDREDS OF MANUFACturers have requested our assistance in locating marketable new products. Complete information, free. Institute of American Inventors, Dept. 131, 1926 Eye St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

1—MODEL 70 HORNET RIFLE WITH J25 Weaver Scope Complete with case. Like new. $165.00. 1—.270 caliber Enfield Action with bolt altered to work on opening. Carl Zeiss Scope. Beautiful Checkered Sporting Stock. Perfect condition. $175.00. 1—.30-40 Krag with Bishop Sporting Stock. Good condition. $65.00. 1—.30-30 Model 94 Winchester with two boxes of shells. Fired five times. $59.50. Hornady Sporting Goods Co., 324 West Fourth Street, Grand Island, Nebraska.

WORLD WAR I, BRASS SPRING WEIGHING scales, up to 20 pounds, made by Colt for Russia, 5 for $1.00. Hudson, R-52 Warren Street, New York 7.

SAVE 10 TO 15 DOLLARS; NEVER FIRED perfect O.P. 4 and 5 inch 38 Spec. $49.50; S&W 38 Spec. 4 inch-good $30.00, very good $35.00, 6 inch—perfect $42.50; Colt O.P. 38 Spec. 4 inch-good $32.50, very good $37.50; K-22 new $60.00; K-38 new $60.00; 38 Colt Super new $60.00; 45 Colt Auto new $60.00; Return guarantee. John Jovino, Inc., 5 Centre Market Place, New York, N.Y.

OUR LIST OF MODERN ARMS WILL BE sent on receipt of three cent stamp. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass.

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SPRINGFIELD RIFLES MOD. 1903 CAL. 30-06, bores very good plus, low number, proof tested and guaranteed, stamped guard, as issued, $45.00; sporterized with Peel peep sight, $47.50; as above, high numbers, milled guards, as issued, $55.00; sporterized, $57.50; No C.O.D., Money refunded if not satisfactory; Martin B. Retting, West Hurley, New York.

OUR CATALOG OF EDGED WEAPONS DEscribing and pricing a museum collection of swords and daggers will be sent on receipt of fifteen cents in coin. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass.

OLD CATALOGS AND ARMS BOOKS FOR sale. New list. Send for Arms Information Club card. Hugh Smiley, Henniker, 10, N.H.

SAME SPEEDY SERVICE, FACTORY NEW K .22, K .38 Masterpieces, Broadtail hammers $65.00; Sports Woodsmans $60.00; Match Targets $85.00; .22, .38 O.M.T.'s $75.00; .38 Super Autos $65.00; 60 MM Bausch & Lomb Spotting Scope $95.00: M.O. please. Russell Harned, Life member, South Glastonbury, Connecticut.

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L. C. SMITH, DOUBLE 12 NEW $75.00. NEW ammunition I don't need—per box: 30-06 Remington 220 grain mushroom $2.50. 30-30 Remington 160 grain M.C. & 170 grain S.P. $2.00. 30-40 Remington 220 grain mushroom $2.50. 257 Remington 100 grain mushroom $2.50. 405 Winchester old .15 cents each. 32 S&W long $2.00. 38 S&W $2.50. 20 gauge shot shells #8—case $35.00. Henry L. Eager, 221 S.W. 1 Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

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First-of-the-year inventory is a sensible custom for every sound business institution — and an equally good idea for most individuals.

So we suggest you make a thorough check-up on *all* your shooting equipment — and determine just what you no longer need.

Someone else may be desperately looking for just those very items, and will snap them up instantly from your "For Sale" ad, here !

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* Guaranteed circulation of 320,000!

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22 Caliber Spitzer Bullets in 45, 50, 55 gr.—$2.75 per 100.

Jackets made of finest gilding metal alloy to insure less fouling and greater accuracy. .22 Cal. jackets—$7.50 per 1000; 30 Cal. jackets—$12.00 per 1000. Trimmed to your specifications. Please state length.

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Springfield	1/8" height
Enfield	7/16" height
Mauser	3/8" height
Sporter	5/16" height
Le-Sporter	1/4" height

#6-48 screw included
$2.25 each

Marble Beads, #57 Gold & Ivory and King #17F3 Gold Bead to fit these ramps, $1.25 each. Marble Sheard #57 Gold Bead, $1.75 each.

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8 mm, .32, .30, .270, .25, .22 Caliber. Precision made of finest copper. Unlimited quantities available, $1.75 per 1000

See your dealer first. Liberal discounts to dealers

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POWDER PRIMERS LOADING TOOLS	List price per 100 postpaid
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.224 cal. 40, 45 gr. MV, 45 gr. HV, 55 gr.	2.80
.228 cal. 60 gr.—$3.00, 75 gr.	3.50
.257 cal. 60 gr. $3.75—120 gr.	4.00
270 cal. 150 gr.	4.75
.30 cal. 110 gr.	4.25
.30 cal. 150 gr. $4.50—180 gr.	4.75
.3585, 9mm, 250 gr.	5.75
8mm cal. 125 gr.	4.25
PRIMERS: Large and small	6.75
POWDER: DuPont and Hercules, per lb.	1.80
Unique & Bullseye, DuPont No. 4759, 8 oz.	1.25
Gas Checks—.25, .30 and 8MM caliber	1.75
PACIFIC TOOLS, Complete for one caliber—Standard, $31.50—Super	38.75
Pacific and Universal dies in most calibers	
PACIFIC POWDER SCALES	8.50
REDDING SCALES	11.95
IDEAL POWDER MEASURE, No. 55	10.00
TRU-LINE JUNIOR PRESS for one caliber	22.00
SAECO TRU SPEED POWDER MEASURE	15.75
STAR SIZER and LUBRICATOR	28.00
POTTER FURNACES, Model D	20.50
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New Target Revolvers and Pistols

H.&R. 922 with 6" barrel	$24.75
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Smith & Wesson, 38 Special Revolvers, 4 inch, parkerized, excellent condition	$39.50
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1½ Pistol Primers, per 1000	7.00
10 ga. new primed cases, per 100	3.00
57 Remington shell primers, per 1000	7.50
250-3000 Savage Rifle Cartridges per 100	13.50
38-40 Rifle Cartridges, per 100	9.00
44-40 Rifle Cartridges, per 100	9.00
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30-06 Arsenal Ctgs., full patch, per 100	7.50
303 British Metal Ctgs., per 100	10.00
32 Long Rim Fire Cartridges, per 100	4.00
32 Short Rim Fire Cartridges, per 100	3.50
25 Stevens Short, Rim Fire Ctgs., per 100	9.00
22 WRF Ctgs., per carton of 500	10.00
45-70 Black Powder Ctgs., per 100	10.00
30-40 Krag Rifle Cartridges, per 100	15.00
30-40 Krag Blank Cartridges, per 100	12.50
10 ga. Blank Shotgun Shells, per 100	9.00
351 Winchester SL Ctgs., per 100	8.50
8MM Lebel Rifle Ctgs., per 100	15.00
9MM Luger Ctgs., per 100	9.60
45-70 Blank Ctgs., per 100	5.00

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MILITARY CONVERSIONS

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Rex **RAMPS**

$2.00 Gracefully designed, hand matted. Specify gun, white or blue. With 6x48 screw. Marbles #57 ivory or gold bead sight $1.25. Prepaid.

ENFIELD SPEED ACTION KIT $5.00

Cocks on opening, short fall, etc., simple instructions.

Rex Hi-Compression mainsprings for Enfield speed action jobs. $1.00 ppd. Liberal discounts.

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in calibers .22, .25, .270, 7 m/m and .30. Rifling twist is std. for these cals., but slower twists available on slow order at no extra cost. Steel is best chrome-moly that money can buy, double heat treated. Bbls. are 1¼" x 27" unturned. Some preturned available, but slower delivery. Now making 6 groove std. bbls. as everybody seems to want these. Bbls. priced at $15.00 each, 20% off to gunsmiths. Attractive quantity discount also in addition. Preturned bbls. $3.00 extra. Barrel fitting to bolt actions resumed, with fair deliveries.

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300 WEATHERBY MAGNUM, 15X SUPER-target, 250 handloads, 90 formed cases, dies. $290.00. J. Bugiada, 1339 E. 15th. St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

CZECH V-24 MAUSER 270, MASHBURN Trigger, Alaskan in Buehler mt. and safety, Bishop stock, sling—excellent, small pits under forend—don't show. $150.00. .06 Springfield—Hi-number—Orig. finish, Bishop Stock, service front, Redfield 70 rear, excellent $75.00. S. A. Colt, factory refinished, chambered for 45 C.A., perfect, has Franzite grips, bolster, $80.00. S.A. Colt 38-40, 4½" fair—$30.00. Colt Bisley 38-40, 5½" good, $40.00. Meepos tool, 38 spl, 45 C.A., 30-06, 270, 257 Rem, excellent $60.00. Answer all replies—consider trades. Lewis J. Robertson, 717 S. San Gorgonio, Banning, Calif.

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Luminous dial . . . sweep second hand . . . Super Accurate . . . imported Swiss precision movement and case. You get them now for a small fraction of original prices. Don't delay! Order now . . . while they last. **Send only $1** down payment with order. Pay balance to postman on arrival, plus postage. Or we pay postage if you enclose $13.95 plus $1.39 Tax. Handsome expansion band included with prepaid order. Money back in 5 days if not delighted. Order Now!

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Hand made, of top-quality leather

Look For The Star

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357 S&W MAGNUM REVOLVER. FIRED only a few times. 8¾" barrel. Also, Core-Lokt bullets (30 cal.) 150, 170, 180, 220 grain. Wanted: Winchester 1886 extra light, or carbine 45-70, 45-90 or 50-110. Bielefeld, New Knoxville, Ohio.

.22 HAENAL SPORTER. EXCELLENT IN, good out. Want 52 or 37. Louis Corbin, 1017 5th, Anacortes, Washington.

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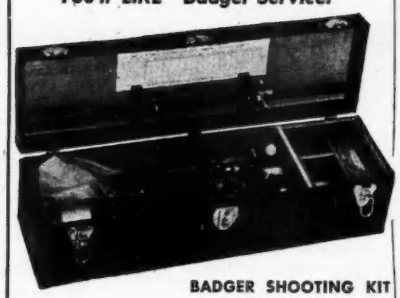

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27" Deluxe Kit as illustrated **$12.85**

27" Deluxe Kit with tray .....

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M/52 Bull Gun	105.55
M/70 Bull Gun	195.00
Winchester 52, Stand.	79.15
Winchester 70, Target	168.45
Winchester M/52 Sporter, 48 rear	138.00
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Remington 521TL	36.95
Remington M/37	113.60
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Smith & Wesson K-22	65.00
Colt Woodsman 6½"	70.00
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(Postpaid)

Holds 50 (.22 l.r.) plus full box in center

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We probably have the largest stock of loading tools, accessories, primed cases, bullets, primers, etc., in the Mid-West. Write for catalog and current issue of our "HEADLINER."

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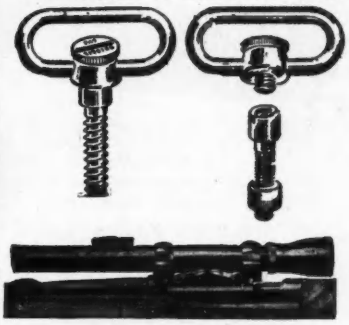

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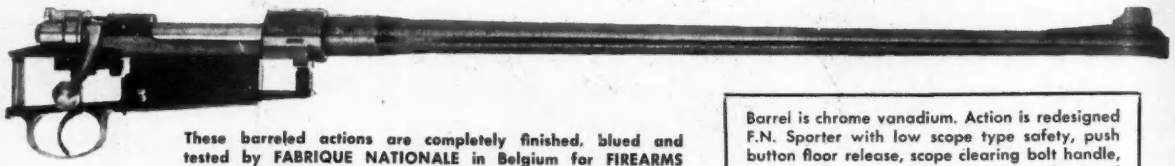

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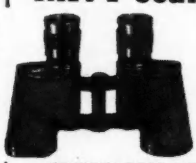

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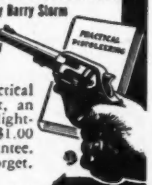

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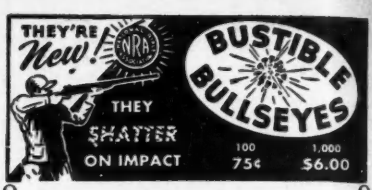

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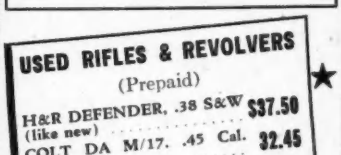

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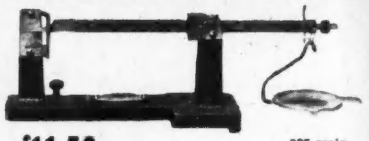

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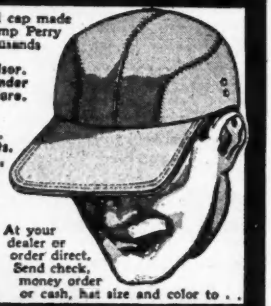

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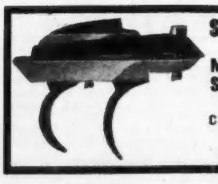

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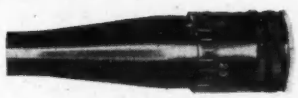

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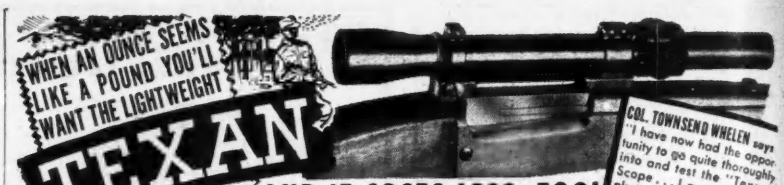

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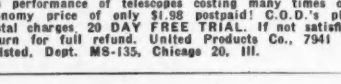

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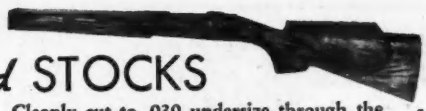

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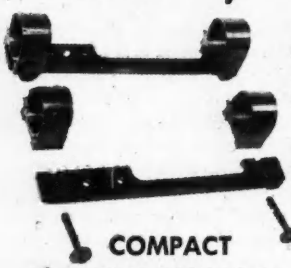

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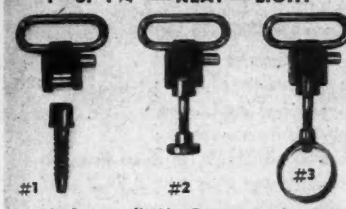

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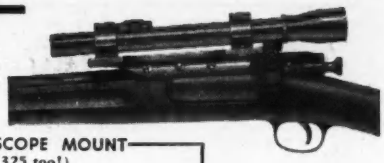

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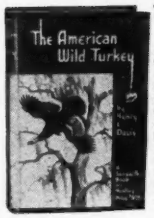

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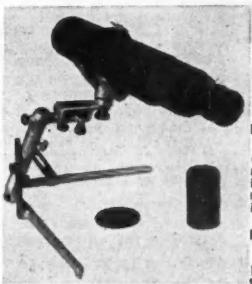

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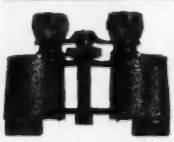

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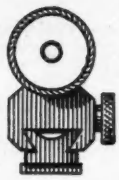

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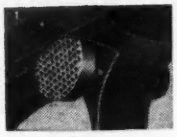

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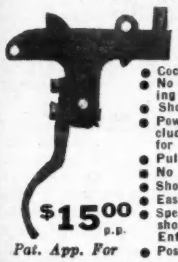

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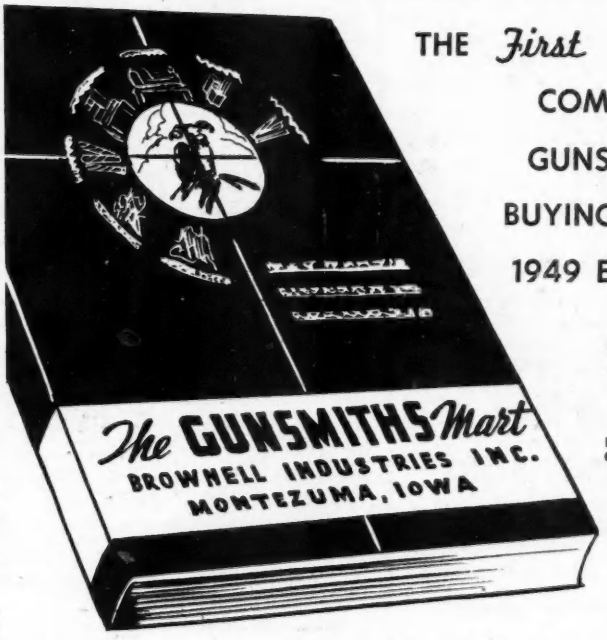

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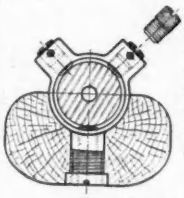

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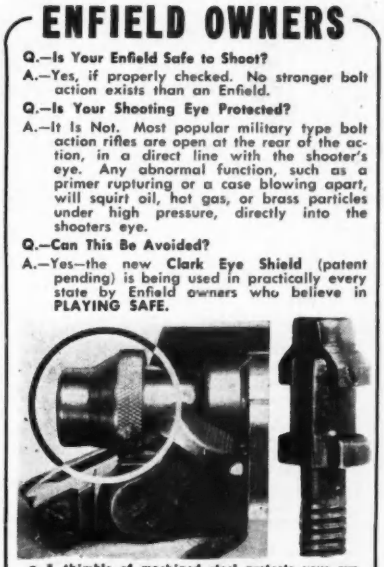

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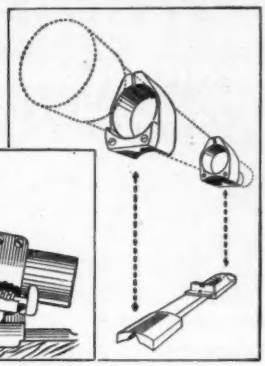

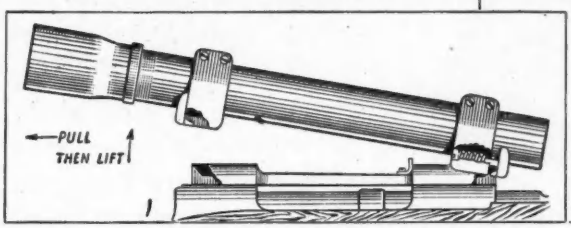

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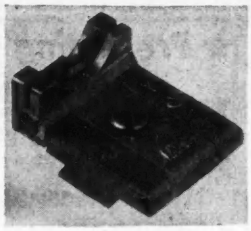

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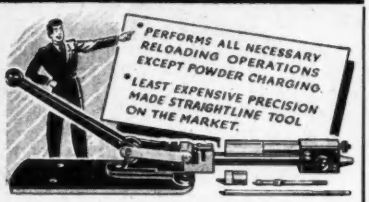
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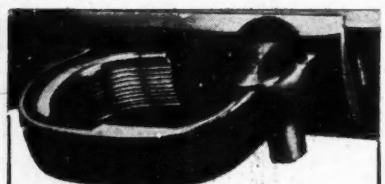

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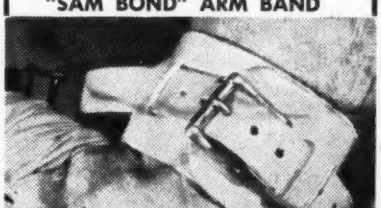

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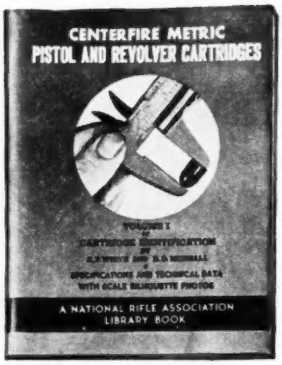

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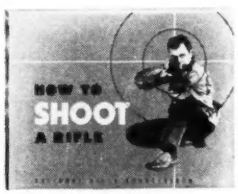

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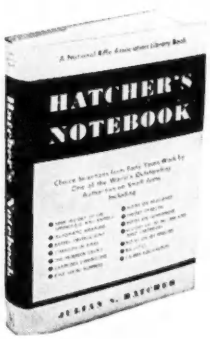

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